

The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol. 2, Issue 2

October - December 1992

OF WILLS & WARS & WEDDINGS ...

—By Laurie Melos Bluedorn

Sometime between 1857 and 1860, Allen Wilson Bratton and his family moved to a farm in the Mercer County, Illinois, area.

Three of Julia Ann's brothers (John, Harrison, & James) and a sister, Amanda Sloan, as well as Julia's mother, Martha Trusler, were already residing in Mercer County, having moved there several years before.

On September 17, 1869, Martha Trusler had a will written. She was unable to read or write—she signed the will with an "X". In the will she desires Allen Wilson Bratton (her son-in-law) to have the use of all her money for three years after her death and for him to pay interest thereon. At the expiration of the three years, the money, plus interest, was to be divided as follows: Rebecca Emmick (daughter) \$200, Julia Ann Bratton (daughter) \$200, all the rest of the money plus the money from the sale of the property was to be divided among all her ten children. A list of her property included: "1 family Bible (\$4.00), 2 flannel dresses (\$1.00), 1 calico dress and apron (\$.50), 1 feather bed (\$6.00), and 1 black silk handkerchief (\$.25)." Two

of Allen and Julia's children, Thomas and James, were witnesses to the will.

THOMAS J. BRATTON

Thomas Jefferson Bratton was the first son of Allen and Julia. He was born July 17, 1846, while Allen and Julia still farmed in Muskingum County, Ohio.

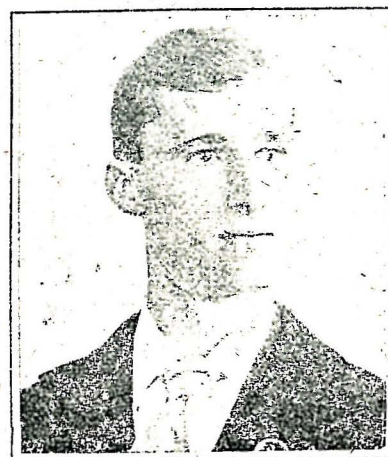
Thomas helped on the farm, and later dug wells as an occupation.

On the 4th of October, 1864, (Six months until the end of the Civil War.) Thomas Jefferson Bratton was voluntarily enlisted at Quincy, Illinois, as a soldier in the US Army. Tom was 18 years old, had gray-blue eyes, red hair, and was 5'8" tall.

From Quincy, Tom was transferred to Springfield, Illinois, then to Mobile, Alabama, and finally to Vicksburg, Mississippi. He served in Company "G" of the 124th Regiment. He was mustered out, with an honorable discharge, on October 3, 1865.

In 1887, when Tom was 42, he applied for an invalid pension. (This was something commonly done by Civil War Veterans.) Tom claimed he contracted diseases of the lungs, Rheumatism of the shoulders and back, Piles, and Cattarah of the head, while serving in the War. For this, he received a

pension until his death and his wife, Minerva Jane Sisk Bratton received the pension until her death, May 17, 1925.



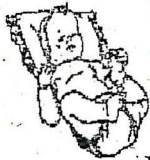
WALTER BRATTON

Born December 8, 1874 in Keithsburg, Illinois, Walter Edward Bratton was the second child of Thomas and Minerva. Making him the third grand child of Allen and Julia Bratton. (Anna Mae Bratton McCannon McElroy, Walter's sister, was the first grandchild; and Etta M., John R. Bratton's first child, who died soon after birth, was the second grandchild).

Walter attended school until 1892 but according to census reports, he did not graduate from high school. In 1892 he became an apprentice in a printing business in Keithsburg, and in October 1897 he took the job of foreman of a newspaper *The Newton Record*, a weekly publication, which was located in Newton, Iowa.

—Continued on page 3—

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:



Eric and Elkie Klein Songer are proud parents of a son, **Matthew William Songer**, born two months pre-mature, on July 2. Matthew weighed 2 lb, 3 oz. It was quite a struggle, but Matthew is home and doing fine now. By the way, **Robert & Maria Klein**, are the proud grand parents.

* * *

Bob and Maria Klein write that Bob has recently been involved in several Tae KwonDo tournaments, and has done quite well. In February he placed second in free sparring in a tournament in Houston, TX. In April he went to Iowa for a national championship and placed 1st. in form for senior men. In May he had promotional testing where he was advanced to 2nd degree black belt. Bob will have his first attempt at deer hunting with bow this month. He says if he gets something, there will be a photo in the next newsletter. Besides working, Maria has been making Christmas wreath ornaments for the tree and hand made quilts. She has been quilting for nearly 10 years now. She would like to hear from anyone else that is a quilter in the family.

* * *

Richard Eugene Lehnert (son of Richard & Jane Lehnert) and family are living off-base at Edzel, Scotland. He has about 21 years in the US Navy and is currently Sr. Chief Petty Officer. The family has been adjusting to Scottish (English) monies, roads, shopping, etc. Richard is on a 3-year enlistment, ending in 1995, and will probably retire at that time.

* * *

Estel and Myla Bratton (son of Arthur and Naomi Bratton) write that they enjoy receiving the newsletter. Other than going to the doctors, Estel says they don't seem to get much done. He is on chemotherapy for cancer, and Myla had surgery in August.

* * *

Mildred Bratton McKenzie Banks (daughter of Philip Bratton) has had to deal with all the recent earthquakes in southern California. Although there has been no significant damage, she finds the minor repairs burdensome.

Her daughter, **Sandi McKenzie Cioppa**, is adjusting to her new job as midwife for Kaiser

hospital in Walnut Creek, CA. She has delivered 180 babies (at last report) since January 18th. Sandy was excited about delivering her first set of twins on August 24.

* * *

Zella and Grady Walton (Frank Dale Bratton line) had an eventful summer. Besides Zella's traveling to Illinois, they hosted three Japanese ladies for a few days; they toured Virginia City, Montana; and "siblings" **Keith Bratton** (and wife, Babs) and **Louise Bratton Pantone**, from California, visited Zella and Dot and families.

* * *

Dorothy and Sam Naseem had a welcomed visitor from Calgary, Alberta, Canada—Sam's mother. She became Dot's "Mother-in-law" 21 years ago on October 31st, when Dot and Sam "tied the knot." Congratulations on this special anniversary!

* * *

Maryan Bratton traveled to Indiana to visit son, **Greg** and family. Then flew to Florida to visit her son, **Gary** and his wife **Pat**. Gary & Pat own a computer consulting business in St. Petersburg.

* * *

Pat Lofthouse (daughter of Dorothy Bratton Jeffers) is busily sewing and getting her crafts ready for two big weekend shows as well as Christmas time events. They recently vacationed in Las Vegas, where she said "No winnings...we all got the flu!"

* * *

Kay and Joe Tira had an eventful few weeks—including their move to Deer Park, Washington—soon after their arrival, their dog was sprayed by a skunk. Talk about a fragrant house warming! (Oh! They say Ruthie's home-canned tomatoe juice came in real handy, too!)

* * *

Elizabeth Bratton Ruth reports with a "Hallelujah!" that she has received new carpet and linoleum in her apartment...just in time for her to celebrate her 78th birthday on October 13...Happy Birthday!

* * *

Speaking of birthdays, we can't list everyone's, but best wishes go to:

Nellie Loso Carlson - 80 on October 14

Ethel Bratton Rassi - 84 on October 11

Patricia Martin Lofthouse - 50 on Nov. 24

Clara Florence Klein - 1 on December 19

* * *

A special greeting to **Earl and Shirley Bratton**, who will celebrate 49 years of marriage, on November 28!

In the Spotlight...



—Interviewed by Benjamin Jones

My grandma's full name is **Nellie Ethel Loso Carlson**. She was named after her mother and her mother's aunt. She was born at her Grandma's house in Mercer County, Illinois, near New Boston on October 14, 1912.

Her parents (*Calvin H. & Nellie Kate Bratton Loso*) were hard-working, honest people who taught values from what they knew. Her parents and grandparents tried to teach her to be honest and do things well.

Nellie remembers lots of stories her grandparents and parents would tell her, and enjoys sharing them.

Nellie considers herself as being an "average child". She played with dolls, tea party dishes and jacks. Her chores were to carry wood and oil fuel, dust, sweep, and wash clothes.

She met her husband through her Uncle Clair. Ragnar was a good friend of Clair's. They worked together at a brick yard, as well as Nellie's dad and brother.

After she was married, Nellie also worked outside the home at a state research hospital for mental patients.



Nellie's favorite activities are camping, cooking, reading, music, studying, traveling and sewing.

When asked who her favorite heroes or heroines were, she said: "When young—my relatives. Also Amelia Earhart, and my teachers."

She is surprised at how quickly things change. "Honesty is always the best policy," she said, when asked about something she has learned in life.

Nellie is glad that the Bratton family tries to get together at reunions and encourages us to enjoy life.

WHAT A BACKGROUND!

Next time you're feeling rather unimportant, try a little arithmetic trick based on the undebatable fact that it took two people, your parents, to get you here. Each of your parents has two parents, so in the generation just prior to that of your mother and father, there were four people whose pairing off and sharing love contributed to your existence.

You are the product of eight great-grandparents, 16 great-great grandparents, 32 great-great-great-grandparents, etc. Keep on multiplying the number by two. If you figure an average of about 25 years between each generation, you'll discover that a scant 500 years ago, there were 1,048,576 people on this planet beginning the production of you.

—The Rev. Gene Britton in *East Point, Ga.*, Reprinted with permission from the March, 1992 *Reader's Digest*. Copyright 1992, The Reader's Digest Assn., Inc.

(Walter Bratton—
Cont'd from page 1)



Two months later, Walter married Myrtle Pleasie Barton in Kansas City, Missouri, at the home of the bride's parents. Walter and Myrtle had become acquainted while Walter still lived in Keithsburg, and Myrtle came to visit relatives.

An entry in Myrtle's autograph book, dated September 22, 1896 reads:

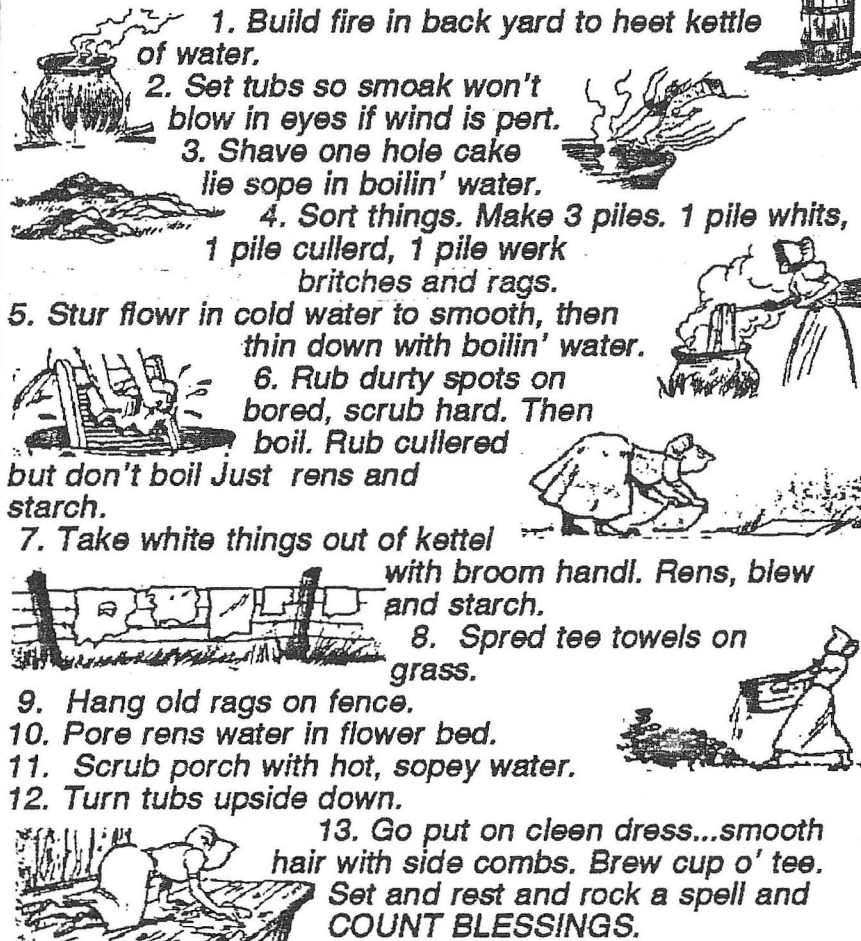
*Miss Myrtle,
In the depth of your affections,
Reserve one spot for me.
In the casket of your memory
Plant one sweet for-get-me-not.
Respectfully,
Walter E. Bratton*

The Brattons made Newton, Iowa their home for ten years and during this time two daughters were born to them: Leila, born March 29, 1899 and Irma Louise, born August 27, 1901.

In 1907 Walter left the employment of *The Newton Record* to assume the foremanship of the commercial printing department of the Iowa Homestead Printing Company, in Des Moines, Iowa. He worked for this company until 1918 when he went into business for himself forming the Bratton Printing Company.

(Continued on page 4)

Recipe for Warshin' Clothes



1. Build fire in back yard to heat kettle of water.
2. Set tubs so smoak won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shave one hole cake lie sope in boilin' water.
4. Sort things. Make 3 piles. 1 pile whits, 1 pile cullerd, 1 pile werk britches and rags.
5. Stur flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down with boilin' water.
6. Rub dirty spots on bored, scrub hard. Then boil. Rub cullered but don't boil Just rens and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broom handl. Rens, blew and starch.
8. Spred tee towels on grass.
9. Hang old rags on fence.
10. Pore rens water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot, sopey water.
12. Turn tubs upside down.
13. Go put on cleen dress...smooth hair with side combs. Brew cup o' tee. Set and rest and rock a spell and COUNT BLESSINGS.

(Walter Bratton—
Cont'd from page 3)

Walter played the trombone in the Za-Ga-Zig Shrine Band and also played in the Opera House Orchestra of Des Moines, Iowa.

Walter Edward Bratton died on October 20, 1969, in Des Moines, Iowa, where he is buried at Chapel Hill Cemetery.

IRMA BRATTON MARS

Walter and Myrtle's younger daughter, Irma, studied Art at the Cumming School of Art in Des Moines and studied design at Cooper Union in New York. She later became an instructor in Graphic and Plastic Arts at the University of Iowa (although she held no art degree), and held that position for five years until her marriage to Reginald Ogden Mars on July 3, 1927.

Irma and Reginald shared two children, Marilyn (born 1928) and Walter (born 1930).

Irma Bratton Mars was a very accomplished artist, specializing in portraits. Her paintings were displayed all over the country.

Irma's career ended suddenly, however, when she died from complications in surgery. She was only 39 years old. ■

(Answer from page 8)

*This chap said at ten-thirty he'd been in Reuben's store.
And bought the evening paper,
Then went out the door.
Most ev'rybody knew, though,
the cops especially,
That Reuben closed at ten sharp,
and that consistently.*

100 years ago...

- Patent was issued for books of matches
- The Dalton Gang was wiped out when trying to rob 2 banks - Oct. 5, 1892
- Benjamin Harrison was president. Grover Cleveland was reelected President on Nov. 8, 1892
- The Thermos Bottle was invented, as well as the electric automobile.
- Round steak was 12¢/lb.

... and in the life of the Brattons, Clair Bratton noted ...

"In 1892 there was a big flood in the river and we had to move to Keithsburg, (Illinois). I was real small, but I can remember when I left the dear old home of seeing my play

things drifted up against the picket fence in the corner of the yard as we had a picket fence most of the way around the house. My play things was only small blocks and boards that I had for boats, and tin cans that we had picked up along the river bank. The kids them days did not have things to play with as they do now days. And the first night we were in Keithsburg, I cried to go home as I wanted my play things.

The water stayed up too long for Pa (Charles E. Bratton) to put out any crop, so we moved out in the country on a farm and Pa worked for the owner, Joe Venable, who ran a blacksmith shop in Keithsburg. We stayed there until after the harvest." ■

The following chart continues from the last issue with descendants of Allen Wilson and Julia Ann Trusler Bratton, going by generation (0-7). The beginning letter corresponds with those on the "Bratton Branches" Chart in the April/June '92 issue. Key: + = Spouse, : = child, * = married within family. Again, *please* notify us of any corrections or additions so we can have a correct family history.

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C (Cont'd) | Anna Elizabeth Bratton Hilten (1911-) | | | | | | : | Robert Charles Bratton (1919-1987) | | | | | | |
| : | +Clarence Lehnert (1900-dec.) | | | | | | : | +Maryan Florence Randall Bratton (1924-) | | | | | | |
| : | Richard Robert Lehnert (1927-) | | | | | | : | Gary Robert Bratton (1951-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Henrietta (Jane) Dean Lehnert (1924-) | | | | | | : | +Karen Elizabeth Nichols Bratton (1951-) | | | | | | |
| : | Richard Eugene Lehnert (1947-) | | | | | | : | +Nancy Renee Frederick Bratton (1954-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Lloya Gale Hodge Lehnert (1954-) | | | | | | : | +Patricia Ann Shapiro Bratton | | | | | | |
| : | Shana Kay Lehnert (1983-) | | | | | | : | Gregory Dean Bratton (1953-) | | | | | | |
| : | Gena Louise Lehnert (1985-dec.) | | | | | | : | +Gail Lynn Gerig Bratton (1953-) | | | | | | |
| : | Lewis Laird Lehnert (1949-1973) | | | | | | : | Matthew Brandon Bratton (1983-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Lillian Louise Lehnert Rassi (1949-) | | | | | | : | Jane Crystal Bratton (1985-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Herman Leslie Murphy (1901-1966) | | | | | | : | Mary Louise Bratton Heimbigner (1920-) | | | | | | |
| : | Leslie Duane Murphy (1935-1956) | | | | | | : | +Richard Eugene "Duke" Heimbigner (1930-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Mary Jane Burkett Murphy | | | | | | : | Esther Helen Bratton Wixom (1924-1984) | | | | | | |
| : | +John Kyle Hilten (1896-1974) | | | | | | : | +Delbert L. Mitchell (1922-) | | | | | | |
| : | Alice Bernice Bratton Miller (1912-) | | | | | | : | +Norval Ellis Wixom (1923-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Marion LaVern Miller (1915-) | | | | | | : | Ruth Lavonne Wixom Mickelson (1952-) | | | | | | |
| **D | James William Bratton (1854-dec.) | | | | | | : | +Carl Van Mickelson (1948-) | | | | | | |
| **E | Charles Edward Bratton (1857-1928) | | | | | | : | Scott Andrew Mickelson (1974-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Ida Mamie Coonrod Bratton (1862-1882) | | | | | | : | Andrew David Mickelson (1983-) | | | | | | |
| : | Phillip Allen Bratton (1881-1961) | | | | | | : | Kathryn Lynn Wixom Tira (1954-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Emma Rosetta Shaw Bratton (1886-1988) | | | | | | : | +Joseph Gary Tira (1951-) | | | | | | |
| : | Mildred Lucinda Bratton MacKenzie (1921-) | | | | | | : | Jordan Nicole Tira (1979-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Fred Day (1880-1974) | | | | | | : | Jason Paul Tira (1980-) | | | | | | |
| : | +James Small MacKenzie (1895-1968) | | | | | | : | Jami Jean Tira (1982-) | | | | | | |
| : | Sandra Anne MacKenzie Cioppa (1945-) | | | | | | : | Barbara Sue Wixom Pomeroy (1956-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Steven Howard Goldfarb (1943-) | | | | | | : | +Leon Dwight Pomeroy (1955-) | | | | | | |
| : | David James Goldfarb (1968-) | | | | | | : | Jared Mark Pomeroy (1980-) | | | | | | |
| : | Brin MacKenzie Goldfarb (1969-) | | | | | | : | Joshua David Pomeroy (1982-) | | | | | | |
| : | Seth Paul Goldfarb (1973-) | | | | | | : | Justin Luke Pomeroy (1983-) | | | | | | |
| : | Emilie Dundee Goldfarb (1978-) | | | | | | : | Joanna Joy Pomeroy (1989-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Forrest J. Cioppa (1936-) | | | | | | : | David Hamilton Wixom (1957-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Mr. "Buddy" Banks | | | | | | : | +Kimberly Ann Houser Wixom (1965-) | | | | | | |
| : | Phillip John Bratton (1922-1967) | | | | | | : | Danica Nicole Wixom (1991-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Ilean Halbrook Bratton (1926-) | | | | | | : | Deryl (Jean) Wixom (1958-) | | | | | | |
| : | James Robert Bratton (1953-) | | | | | | : | Mary Angela Wixom Stephens (1962-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Michelle Lowther Bratton | | | | | | : | +James Clay Stephens, Jr. (1958-) | | | | | | |
| : | Geoffrey Alan Bratton (1974-) | | | | | | : | Rachel Kay Stephens (1981-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Barbara Frances Butler- Bratton (1956-) | | | | | | : | Leah Renee' Stephens (1983-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Mrs. Phillip Bratton (Estaline) | | | | | | : | Sarah Esther Stephens (1986-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Carrie Louise Gabeen Bratton (1862-1938) | | | | | | : | Rebekah Joanne Stephens (1991-) | | | | | | |
| : | William Edward "Ed" Bratton (1885-1954) | | | | | | : | Donald Dale Wixom (1964-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Martha Mae Brannon Bratton (1889-1914) | | | | | | : | +Barbara Ann Eld Wixom (1965-) | | | | | | |
| : | +Beulah Margaret Resor Bratton (1886-1949) | | | | | | : | Tyler David Wixom (1988-) | | | | | | |
| : | Keith Edison Bratton (1918-1918) | | | | | | : | Mitchell Edward Wixom (1990-) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | : | +Maude Underhill Bratton (1886-dec.) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | : | Clair Wilson Bratton (1888-1979) | | | | | | |

**[Please note that on chart in April '92 issue, that James and Charles were reversed in date sequence. (James had no known descendants.) This chart reflects correct chronological order.]

NAMES & FACES 1992

Recent family photos we've received and are sharing to help you become acquainted with other Bratton families.

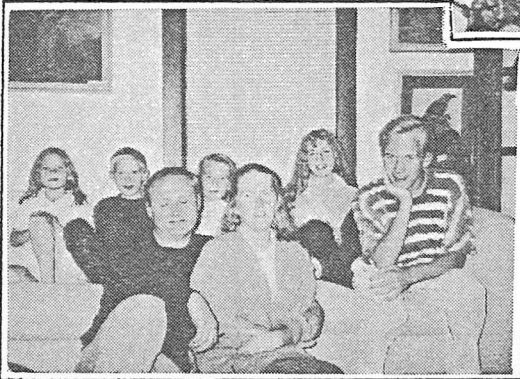
"Blessings are not counted in gold or dividends, but by the love we share with family & friends" —Wolfe



Myla and Estel Bratton
(Estel is son of Arthur A. Bratton)



Old or new??? Taken in Virginia City, MT this summer are: Care-giver—Grady Kendall, Grady Walton, and Zella Bratton Walton. (Zella is daughter of Frank "Dale" & Geneva Resor Bratton.)



The Harvey Bluedorn Family: (L-R) Helena, Hans, Harvey, Ava, Laurie, Johanna, and Nathaniel.

Center Photo: Harvey & Laurie Bluedorn (Laurie is the daughter of Tamzon Bratton Melos, and grand daughter of Percival and Leila Bratton Haig.)



(L-R) **Jacqui Lofthouse** (granddaughter of Dorothy), **Dorothy Bratton Jeffers**, (daughter of Arthur & Iva Bratton) **Cody Lofthouse** (Dorothy's great grandson), **Jodina Lofthouse Picket**, and **Pat Lofthouse** (daughter of Dorothy).

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is a column for questions, comments, answers, or general notes. Send any of these items to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

FAMILY WEEK- Nov. 13-21 Here's an Idea!

Involve the entire family in a project for Family Week by starting a family portrait book. Ask each member of the family to draw a picture of another family member.



Some members may choose to draw a family pet. If they do, they have to draw a person, too! Be positive about each person's ability to "capture" the other family member on paper, no matter what the age or drawing ability.

Set up a time for each sitting—just like real artists do—and suggest that the person being drawn pose, doing something he/she enjoys.

A sentence or two may be written on the bottom of the picture to describe its contents. Include the model's name and the artist's signature at the bottom of the picture.

Variation: If photographs are available of each family member, cut out each head and mount on a piece of paper. The artist then draws the rest of the body and provides the background.

Assemble the book with a cover. Decide on a name for the book, such as "The Crazy Maceys" or "The Clever Webers," and include the date on the cover. Set aside some time for each artist to share his/her picture and text. Add the book to your home library. In years to come, continue making family portrait books.

—By Harriet Gilwee, Source unknown

Have a favorite photo?! We are making plans for a special photo issue of this publication. Due to space required, the first special issue will include photos prior to 1960. Old photos of the 3 main (descendent) lines of Allen Wilson Bratton's children should be submitted before November 20. Photos will be returned quickly and in good condition.

* * *

Correction from previous issue: Zella Walton attended her high school reunion in Illinois—not her college reunion. Sorry, Zella!

Barbara and Leon Pomeroy notify us that the PO Box number is most important on their mail, that address is: PO Box 158, Eaton, IN 47338.

* * *

Lost track of relatives...

"... We have lost contact with any other living Bratton relatives so am anxious to see what information you have ... Pete's grandmother was Florence, whose mother was Thomas Jefferson's oldest child Anna Mae. We would like to hear from some of Tom's descendents."

-- Pete & Pat Schebler
Davenport, IA

* * *

We want to hear from you! Send us your notes.

Special thanks to those who made contributions to this issue—whether full articles or information for articles: Laurie Bluedorn, Ben Jones, Donna Nachtrab.

HOME

It may be a mansion, it may be a dump,
It may be a farm with an old broken pump,
It may be a palace, it may be a flat;
It may be a room where you just hang
your hat,

It may be a house with a hole in the floor
Or a marble hotel with a man at the door,
It may be exclusive, or simple, or swell;
It may have grand fixin's, like curtains--
and well....

Just kindly remember, wherever you roam,
That old song is right, folks,

"There's no place like home!"

(--Benedict's Scrapbook)

1993 Reunion Plans UPDATE...

It's Oshkosh, b'gosh! ...Well, a suburb, I guess... Donna and Steve Nachtrab (daughter of Don & Virginia Bratton) have offered to host the reunion for 1993 in the area of Van Dyne, Wisconsin.

The reunion will be held over the July 4 weekend, with Saturday and Sunday being the highlighted days.

We know some of you need to put in for vacations a year early, so at least the date and place has been set. Steve and Donna will update us in the next newsletter on further plans or information.

If you would like to contact them individually, here's their address:

Steve & Donna Nachtrab
W 8708 W. Lone Elm Rd.
Van Dyne, WI 54979

Make plans now to attend the 1993 Bratton Family Reunion. Let's make this the biggest one ever!



AN OCTOBER MYSTERY IN RHYME

One thing about Uncle Reuben 'most
ev'rybody knew.

He always was methodic in what he had to do.
At ten each evening promptly, he'd lock up front and rear
And opened up at seven, each morning of the year.

He lived alone and liked it, his store was trim and clean;
He sold ice cream and candy, 'most any magazine.
He also handled papers, built up a darn nice trade;
He gave nobody credit, and when you bought you paid.

Some said he was a miser, had saved a wad of dough;
He didn't trust the banks and loved to watch money grow.
At any rate they found him one morning, almost dead;
His quarters had been ransacked, a knob upon his dead.

He raved, was incoherent, his talk made little sense;
He couldn't answer questions and knew not thence from
whence.

They rounded up some suspects, all offered alibis;
At least they told good stories, but one was hardly wise.

He said he'd bought his paper that night at half-past ten,
Had said good-night to Reuben and headed homeward
then.

They promptly seized this fellow and put him in jail,
Charged with assault and robb'ry, sequestered without
bail.

Old Reuben soon got better and went back to his store.
The man who robbed him? In for twenty years or more.
Now, will you kindly tell us, by no means, please, in
rhyme,

How they figured who was the guy that did the evil crime?

If you should be befuddled ...
and your mind won't work any more...
Just turn to the answer...
it's right there on page 4

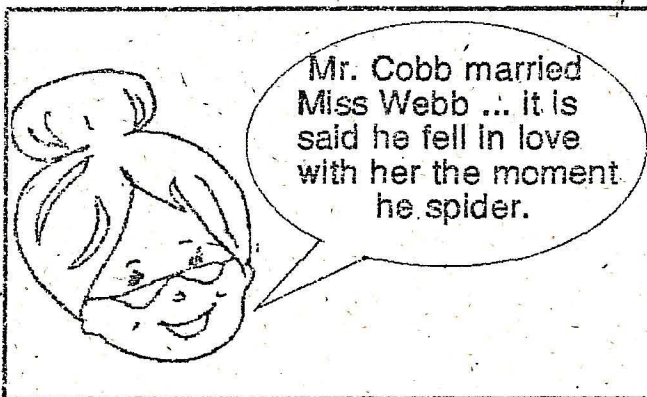
Reprinted with permission of Bantam Doubleday Dell
Publishing Group, Inc. "Best of Dell Crosswords #19", 1992

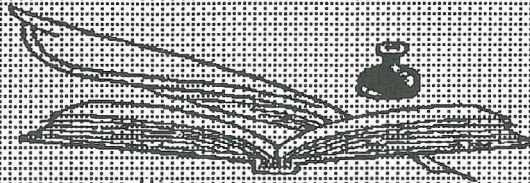
The Bratton Bulletin

Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested

Granny B. says ...





The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

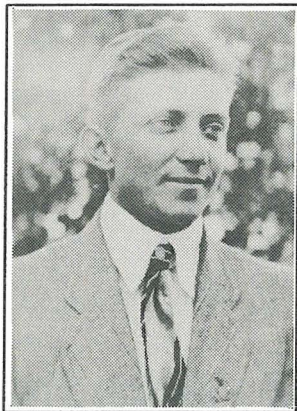
Vol. 4, Issue 1

July - September 1994

Dale Bratton— Veteran, Family Man

Born October 6, 1895 in Oakville, Iowa, Frank Dale Bratton was the sixth child of Charles Edward Bratton.

He never really went by his first name, but was "Dale" to his family and friends. He was nicknamed "Biff" by his brothers.



Young Dale Bratton
Hamilton Resor's class (1907).

His future wife, Geneva Resor (daughter of the teacher) also attended this school.

Dale enjoyed hunting with Earl, Ernie and Clair. He also loved the river, and recalled many good times of play on the banks before the levees were put in. Even after the levee was in, there was danger of flooding, and Dale's children recall being told how as a young man he and others had to take turns guarding the levee at night to prevent men, crossing the river from Illinois,

from breaking the levee and cause flooding on the Iowa side.

One night he told about some strange lights he saw. They seemed to be jumping along the ground in a very eerie way. Since he didn't know what they were, he was frightened and took his gun along the next night. He later learned that the mysterious lights were probably a fox fire (the luminescence of decaying wood and plant remains caused by various fungi).

Dale was a veteran of World War I. He went to Camp Grant for Army service on September 5, 1918, then to Camp McArthur in Waco, Texas.

Nellie Carlson (Dale's neice) remembers that when Dale was called to go to take his training in the army, he was sent to Waco, Texas.

"I remember one night late (October, 1918) I woke up and heard someone outside calling mom [Katie]. I heard her raise the window and answer. I ran to her room and looked out. It was Dale standing there in his uniform. He wanted her to let him in.

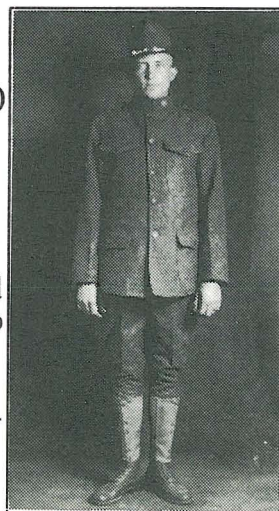
(I wanted to go downstairs with

her, but she made me go back to bed.) I found out in the morning that he was on the troop train headed for Fort Sheridan up by Chicago, and the train had stopped in Galesburg to take on supplies."

"Dale had talked to his commander and asked if he could go to see his sister. (We lived in East Galesburg at the time, about three miles from the train station.) His commander gave him a certain time to be back, so he hiked out. He told her his troop was to be sent out to New York and board the next ship to Europe, so that would be the last time they would see each other. They had a lot to say to each other before he left."

"In just a few days the Armistice was signed. I remember hearing bells ringing from every church and school house, whistles blowing from trains and factories and mom standing in the yard crying because 'now Dale would not have to leave on the ship.' She was overcome with joy."

Dale's daughter, Zella Walton, recalls a story that used to be told about this time in his life. It seems that before the troop was to be sent over seas, a major portion of the men became quite ill with the flu. As some would get over the symptoms, the men—not wanting to go to Europe—would rough-house and play in the barracks before inspection. This would cause their temperatures to rise, and prolonged



Frank Dale Bratton—
1st World War

(Continued on page 4)

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:



Senior Chief Petty Officer, **Richard Eugene Lehnert**, officially retired from the U.S. Navy on May 11. He returned to Pennsylvania May 21, and his family to Chicago on the same day. Richard, Lloya, and and their two daughters have been stationed at Edzel, Scotland, for the past three years and have not been home at all during that time. They do not know yet where they will locate after returning to the States.

* * *

Eighth grader **Ben Jones** (son of Don and Carol Sue Carlson-Jones) was selected to attend the Illinois Math and Science Academy summer program from July 6-16 at Eastern Illinois University. This camp is for gifted students in math and science; and Ben was one of 120 throughout the state chosen to attend. What an honor, we're proud of you, Ben!

* * *

Kelly Loso (daughter of Ray Loso) and **Bruce Baxter** were united in marriage on May 14 at Cornerstone Community Baptist Church in Kent, WA. They spent their honeymoon at Disney World. Congratulations to this newly-wed couple.

* * *



Marriages

We send our best wishes to **Todd Wilson** (son of Ed and Bonnie Loso Wilson) and **Kari Kaba** who were married on May 1, in Des Moines, WA. Their son, Hunter Theodore (born February 2, in Bellview, WA) was able to attend the wedding.

* * *

Leon and Barbara Wixom Pomeroy traveled to Wyoming in April, where Leon conducted the funeral service for his grandmother. They were able to spend time with some members of both sides of their family during their travel.

* * *

Rick and Kathleen Thomas have moved to Long Grove, IA, (only about 10-12 miles from Davenport) where Kathleen is the new pastor of the Long Grove Christian (Disciples) Church. Rick will continue at his job with the Corp of Engineers. Their new address: 229 Cadda Rd., Long Grove, IA 52756. Their daughter, **Seana**, graduated from high school in May. She is one of the youth representatives in the midwest for their denomination.

* * *

James Stephens spent one week in Waxahachie, TX, at the S.W. Assemblies of God College. He has received a grant to complete his adult education in an external degree program through the college, and plans to get his masters in biblical studies, as well as his

seminary training. Most of his studies will be via computer, but he will return to Texas for 2-3 days each term. Good luck, James!

* * *

Amanda Martin (daughter of Earl & Gay Martin and grand daughter of Dorothy Bratton Martin Jeffers) has been nominated and accepted in the National Honor Roll Society. She's a sophomore at Magazine High School near their home in Blue Mountain, Arkansas.

* * *

Rose Bratton underwent carpal tunnel surgery on her right hand on April 27. She is doing fine now, after spending quite a bit of time at home and away from work. She plans to retire from her job in Burlington, IA, sometime this month.

* * *

Carrie Rulis (daughter of Alan & Alfreda Carlson Rulis) was recognized for academic excellence on April 28th at Roanoke Lutheran College in Virginia. Named "Junior Scholar," Carrie had to earn an accumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better for both years she has attended. She was also nominated for membership to Sigma Delta Pi, a national honor society, which requires a superior record in Spanish, and to Xi Theta Chi, an honorary fraternity for students with proficiency in modern languages. Congratulations, Carrie!

* * *

A very brave couple, **Steve and Donna Nachtrab** (daughter of Don & Virginia Bratton) volunteered to help chaperone the Laconia (WI) High School band on a six-day trip to Florida. Their daughters, **Sherri and Diana**, were part of the 110-piece band which was selected to perform at Epcot Center and the Magic Kingdom. To make the trip possible, the band raised over \$42,000 by selling pizzas and raffle tickets. The family was able to tour Kennedy Space Center, Epcot, and other Florida sights. They also were able to visit Steve's parents, who live in Florida and are both employed by Disney World. Sounds like the Nachtrabs had a wonderful trip!

* * *

Ruth Mickelson is illustrating stories written by a missionary in Canada. The stories are about a fictional character, Nikolai, a Yakut boy who lives in Russia. The job will involve many hours of sketching and drawing for packets to become available to other missionaries, through InterAct Ministries, this summer.

* * *

While **Don Wixom** has been spending some time doing landscaping at their home, his wife, **Barbi**, has been taking cake decorating classes. She has also been busy making specialty cakes for anniversaries and birthdays with customized themes for family and friends. Don continues to manage the gospel music group "Judah" in his spare time.

* * *

Two new drivers are on the road this summer. **Jordan Tira** received her driver's permit for Nebraska, and **Lisa Akin** got her California driver's license this Spring. Buckle-up, girls, we love you!

* * *

(Continued on page 5)

In the Spotlight...



Patricia Martin

Lofthouse keeps herself busy with crafts and sewing. You will often find her sitting at her sewing machine in "Pat's Loft"—the name and place of her business in Marquette Heights, IL.

Patti has always had an interest in the crafting business. At first, mostly out of necessity, as most people do. As she progressed and came into the workplace, she also started taking classes in china painting. This she did in the form of jewelry making. She sold the items she made (earrings, necklaces, etc.) to her co-workers at Hiram Walker and Sons Distillery in Peoria, Illinois

She decided to quit her job in 1980, after working for Walkers for 13 years. Her daughters, Jodina and Jacquie, were both in high school and only really needed her in the evenings. So, in the daytime, Pat started making her version of the then popular, and unavailable, Cabbage Patch doll. Her first versions were much larger, but she

eventually cut them down in size and got them to look more like the "CP" dolls. She also made the clothing, and still does. "My dolls were sold as far away as Brazil, outside of the states; New Hampshire and California in the states," she says.



This batch of Patti's dolls were sent to Brazil.

This evolved into her taking the items to sell into shops. Before she knew it, she had items in five different shops. "The owners were taking my things to festivals, flea markets, craft shows, plus selling in their own shops. I had had it! Completely burned out!" So she took a break for a year and for the last five years has been going full-speed in two shops—one located in Farmington, Illinois, called "Shad Hill"; and the other located in Groveland, Illinois. She has now re-located in a new shop in Pontiac (due to the closure of the one in Groveland) called "Country Cousins" and a shop in Metamora, called "Tole and Treasures."

Patti's husband of 32 years, Dave, makes all of her wood items for the Shad Hill shop. She makes doll clothes, bunnies, bears and anything that can be sewn or stuffed—items that she finds most difficult to

keep in stock at the shops. She also sews for a lady who makes porcelain dolls.

The daughter of Dorothy Bratton Martin Jeffers, and grand daughter of Arthur Bratton, Pat says she really never knew much about her family. She has really enjoyed getting to meet new "cousins" and family members in the last couple years. She was able to attend the 1993 reunion with her mother and sister, Viola Herzman.

Dave has retired from his job at the Caterpillar tractor company. The couple plans to do some camping this summer—provided Patti can get away from her sewing machine long enough.

Patti dresses geese like the one at the right as her newest items.



A young man was in love with two women and could not decide which of them to marry. Finally, he went to a marriage counselor. When asked to describe his two loves, he noted that one was a great poet and the other made great pancakes. "Oh," said the counselor, "I see what the problem is. You can't decide whether to marry for batter or verse."

--Karen F. Minick, quoted by William Safire in *Quoth the Maven* (Random House)

Dale Bratton—

Continued from page 1

the inevitable trip. It wasn't long before the Armistice was signed and they never did have to go overseas. Dale was discharged at Camp Grant on March 10, 1919.

Having known the Resor girls for quite some time, Dale asked Geneva Mildred Resor to be his wife. They were married on October 31, 1920, at Genie's sister's [Stella and Gene Parrott's] home near Danville, Iowa. This union formed a double relationship in the Resor/Bratton family, as Dale's brother Ed had previously married Genie's sister, Beulah.



Dale & Geneva Bratton on their wedding day. (Taken at Bauman Studio in Burlington, Iowa.)

The Mt. Pleasant News had the following article:

On Sunday, October 31, at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Eugene Parrott, near Danville, occurred the marriage of Miss Geneva Resor and Mr. Dale Bratton. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Speigh of New London in the presence of the following friends: Eugene Parrott and family, Miss Florence Resor of Champaign, R.A. Parrott and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grinstead, Rev. and Mrs. Speigh and Miss Myrtle Gottchal of Mt. Pleasant. The ring service was used. The bride was charmingly dressed in blue silk.

On September 21, 1921, their

first Child, Keith Dale, was born on a farm near Palmyra, Missouri.

Zella Marie was born three years later (May 9, 1924) near Palmyra.

At this time, the Dale Bratton family and the Ed Bratton family shared a big two-story house. Zella and her cousin Esther were born 18 days apart; and since Beulah was not able to produce milk to nurse Esther, Genie nursed them both. They were occasionally dressed alike, so they always felt they were more like twins than cousins.

A few years later, Dale and family moved to Iowa near Oakville, where he was a tenant farmer. They also lived in the little town of Oakville. In 1930 they moved to Knoxville, Illinois. This was during the depression years and Dale was grateful to be employed as care-taker and handy man for a local businessman and banker.

Their daughter, Louise Hamilton was born August 16, 1930, in the hospital at Galesburg [a nearby metropolis]; and Dorothy Geneva was born in Knoxville on January 14, 1933.

Games were always enjoyed by the family. The card game, "canasta," was especially enjoyed by Genie; and it was often played as the after-dinner "family time." The family members were always very close to one another.

When World War II broke out, Dale went to work for Butler Manufacturing Company in Galesburg. He worked there for 18 years until he retired.

Reading westerns was one of Dale's favorite pastimes. He

once confided that he had two secret dreams: to make trips to see the Golden Gate Bridge and to the Alamo. He was able to travel to those places as well as making long trips around the country from coast to coast and into Canada.

Dale was highly respected in the community, was a very loving father and husband, and was always very helpful to others. He was known as a "jack of all trades;" but he especially liked to work with engines.



Dale "tinkers" with the lawn mowers. (spring of 1954)

Dale suffered a stroke on September 26, 1970, and died four days later at a Galesburg hospital. Genie moved to Helena, Montana, where two of their daughters resided. She died September 28, 1976.

The couple had seven grandchildren. Eight great grandchildren have been born since that time. ■



The Dale Bratton Family. Back row: Zella & Grady Walton, Louise, Dorothy, Keith & Babs. In front: "K.D.", Dale, David and Genie. ("K.D" and David are Keith's boys.)

News & Notes

Continued from page 2

Greg and Gail Bratton and family have relocated to Richmond, IN, due to Greg's transfer in his business. Their new address is: 1205 Hunters Pointe Dr.; Richmond, IN 47374
* * *

Lorraine (Thomas) Perlman has completed her chemotherapy, but is now undergoing five weeks of radiation therapy. We pray she will recover quickly.
* * *

It is said that "Time only strengthens true love." It must be so for **Zella and Grady Walton**. They will celebrate their 44th wedding anniversary on August 20th.
* * *



United in Marriage

Thomas James Evans (grandson of Jean Haigh Evans Knudsen) was married to **Cindy Marie**

Schaul on June 25th in Dubuque, IA, at the Holy Ghost Church. T.J. just graduated from Iowa State University and is now working for an accounting firm in Dubuque. Cindy graduated as a nurse. We wish them many years of wedded bliss.
* * *

Louise Bratton Pantone was able to spend some time in June at Helena, MT, visiting her sisters **Zella Walton** and **Dot Naseem** and families.
* * *

Rob and Jodina Lofthouse Pickett moved into their new home recently, just after they did the "finishing touches." They reside in Decatur, IL.
* * *

Lisa and Kevin Garland have relocated all the way from California to Virginia. Their new address is: 12 James Square, Williamsburg, VA 23185.
* * *

Kay and Joe Tira and family have moved across town. Their new address is: 11 East 36th St., Kearney, NE 68847.

BOOKS— SURNAME IN HISTORY & GENEALOGY



If you are interested in history and/or other Bratton genealogies, and might be thinking of starting a library collection of your own, here are a few newly available books to consider:

Historic Brattonsville, A Wedge of County History, by Wade Fairey. This book is about the South Carolina Brattons—William Bratton, born 1718, Ireland and his descendents. (William would have been a brother to our ancestor, Samuel.) You won't find much more fascinating historical accounts, as this book tells about the Bratton's part in Huck's Defeat. The cost from their gift shop is \$10.00, to purchase the book by mail, add an additional \$5.00 for shipping and handling. You may order the book by calling Historic Brattonsville at (803) 684-2327, or by writing to Historic Brattonsville Gift Shop, 1444 Brattonsville Road, McConnells, SC 29726.

Early Days in Kansas Along the Santa Fe Trail is published by Charles R. Green, Historian. It has the Burlingame pioneer narratives of the first 25 years of Kansas history, some of the Sac and Fox Indians history, and many portraits of pioneers, including Robert and George Bratton, and Indians. (We have not yet found a connection to our line, but it is very interesting reading.) This book is only \$7.00 (includes postage & handling) and can be obtained by writing to: Osage Co. Historical Society, Box 361, Lyndon, KS 66451.

Rural Schools of Louisa County is available from the Louisa County Historical Society. It details teachers, students, and much information about the area in the early 1900's. Quite a few photos are in this book; many of the names may be familiar to a lot of you. This book can be ordered for \$22.00 from LCHS: 609 Hwy 61 No., Box 261, Wapello, IA 52653

Oakville—100 Years Relived is also available from LCHS. Richard Lehnert had a big part in locating historical facts for this book. It is very interesting, as well. Cost: \$13.50.

We're Gonna Have A Good Time!

August 5-7 is planned to be a special time for any who might be able to venture toward Portland, Oregon.



There will be lots to do. Swimming, hiking, and sight-seeing are among a few of the things we'll have planned. You may want to bring your swimming suit and a lawn chair or two. We will also plan a talent show the night of the 6th, so plan to bring something along to share with us. Don Wixom has consented to be our M.C. again!

You will find a sign-up sheet enclosed in this issue. We would appreciate receiving it no later than July 15, so we can plan a little better. If you decide after that time to come, please call Jeannie (503) 663-0834 to let her know.

For anyone who might be flying or taking the train, and does not plan to rent a car, there is Lariat Gardens Bed & Breakfast within a block from us. It has two large rooms, private baths, queen canopy beds, jacuzzi, etc. A third room is also available, which connects to the main suite for a family situation. It has a queen and a single bed. If further information is needed on this, please contact us.

Motels are within a 7-10 mile radius, and we would be happy to offer transportation back and forth if needed.

If you'll be in the area, make sure to plan to visit us. We're gonna have a good time!

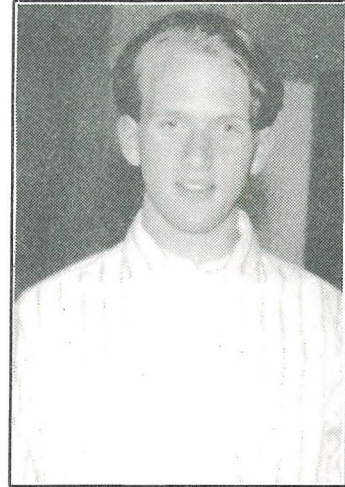
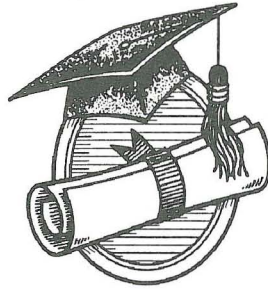
NAMES & FACES of our 1994 graduates

There are obviously two educations: One should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live. – James Adams



Patrick Alan Naseem
June 3-Lewis & Clark H.S.
Helena, MT
(Class Valedictorian)
4.0 GPA; Summa cum laude

Pat plans to attend the University of Montana and major in some aspect of Science.



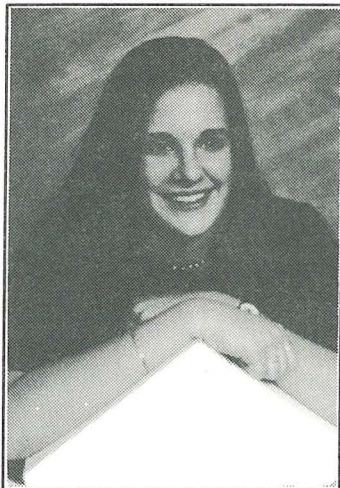
Nathan Protestant Bluedorn
May - Home School
New Boston, IL

Nathan plans to take correspondence courses in the fall. He will complete calculus, physics and paralegal courses this summer.



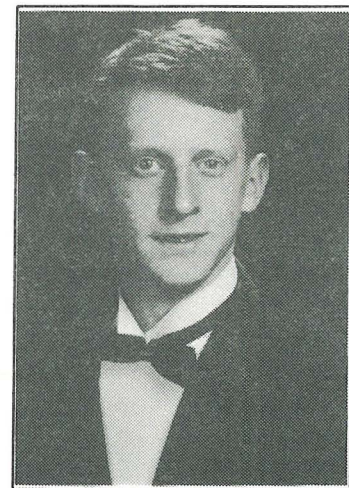
Sherri Lee Nachtrab
May 27 -Laconia H.S.
Rosendale, WI

Sherri plans a career in law enforcement. She is currently enrolled at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, WI. She has also joined the Air Force, subject to passing her physical.



Seana Thomas
May - Assumption H.S.
Davenport, IA

Seana plans to attend Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, in the fall.



Paul Michael Rulis
June 21-W.T. Woodson H.S.
Fairfax, VA

Paul has been accepted at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. He plans to major in computer science.

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is a column for questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes. Send them to the address on the back page with a note attached, stating that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

Q: We have just found out that we are expecting, and wondered if there many twins in the Bratton family lines?

A: Not too many that we know of. We know of the following [if there are others out there, please advise us]: Bonnie (Wilson) & Connie Loso; Lillian (Rassi) & Lewis Lehnert; Jackie & Judy Loso.

1995 Reunion Plans Made?

If you have already made reservations at Colorado Springs for the 1995 reunion, we would like to hear from you.

Q: Could you please let us know what your "deadline" dates are in advance of your publication? Thank you.

A: Thank you for reminding me ... generally, we'd like to have articles by the following dates—the schedule usually depends on the printer, however. March 15 (for April-June issue); June 15 (for July-Sept. issue) Sept 15 (for Sept-Dec. issue); Dec. 31 (for Jan-Apr. issue). [January will always be a little later getting out due to holidays.]

Surprising Relationship Found
After writing a thank you note to Mr. Street for information he helped

me obtain from Louisa County, Iowa, he wrote a letter in return:

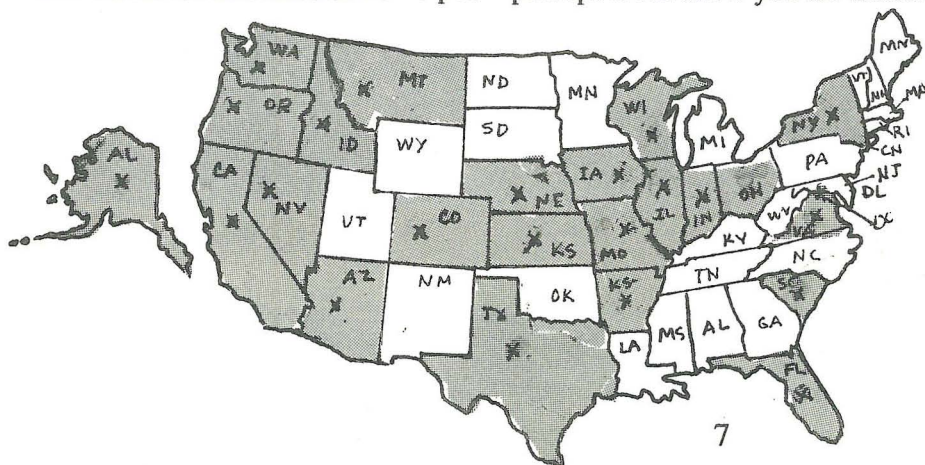
... My first wife was a great granddaughter of William Pennington Hardin and Martha Ann Mansfield. ... William was a son of Thomas Hardin and Celia Brewer. Two of his sister's children married Charles Edward Bratton. Ida ... and Carrie ... So my four daughters have a collateral relationship to the Brattons. They would be second cousins two generations removed from Nellie Kate [referring to the issue you sent my way]. They would be third cousins once removed from Nellie Loso Carlson.

My wife was Elizabeth Gerst, daughter of Hattie Hardin and David Gerst. Hattie's parents were Samuel Hardin and Alice Bower. Hattie would have been a second cousin to Nellie Kate Bratton who married Cally Loso.

—Keith M. Street,
Wapello, IA

Q: I'm curious to know how many states in the U.S our family represents. Would you have that information?

A: Counting from just the address listings we have for the A.W. Bratton descendants at this time, 22 states and D.C. are represented. We also had family members, outside the U.S, in Scotland and Antarctica until recent months. (The map below is small, but perhaps it can show you the states.



Just For Fun

"My father must have had some elementary education, for he could read and write and keep accounts inaccurately." -- George Bernard Shaw

As all the children of a large family scrambled into the back of the family station wagon, one of them called out, "Whose foot am I sitting on?" "If it has a brown sock," came the reply, "It's mine."

Cartoon: Picture of stern-faced mother-in-law hanging on wall of burnt out house, but untouched by the flames.

Caption: They wouldn't have dared!

RIDDLES

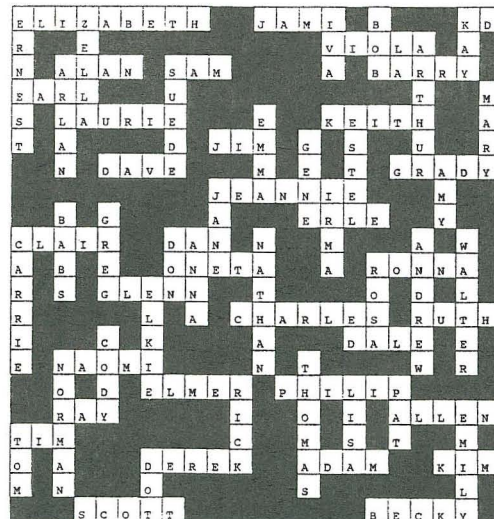
1) What does a tree and a family have in common?

[Almost every family has some sap in it.]

2) How is baking bread and grandparents alike? [One is raising and the other already did the raising.]

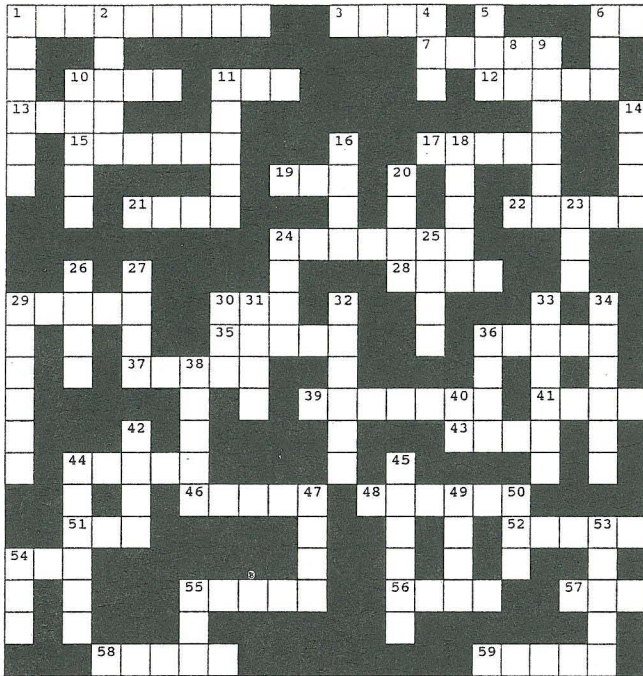
3) What's the difference between a father dressed for a day at the office and a tired dog? [The father wears a suit and the dog just pants.]

Answer to puzzle on page 8



On a "First Name" Basis

This crossword contains names that family members were most often "called by." Most of the answers can be found in this and prior issues of *The Bratton Bulletin*. Solution can be found on page 7 of this issue.



ACROSS

1. Mrs. Ruth; Arthur's first-born
3. Miss America pre-teen pageant contestant in '92
6. He married Frances Helton in '93.
7. She set pie & milk out for Santa.
10. He & Alfreda Rulis celebrated their 25th Anniv. in Scotland!
11. He was known for wearing his name tag upside down at '91 reunion.
12. "our" Desert Storm vet
13. Mr. Melos, Bratton, and Martin's common name
15. Mother of #32D.
17. He remembered back 65 years in a "Spotlight" article.
19. Mr. Loso is rebuilding a cabin in CleElum, Washington.
21. Husband of Maggie; Danica's daddy; or a recent video release.
22. Husband of #2 D.
24. She hosted the '91 "Boring" reunion.
28. Nicknamed "Win"
29. "Doc"--built boats, wrote notes
30. Short for Daniel
35. WWII WAC, First-born of #1D
36. She makes specialty dolls
37. He caught a stingray on a recent trip to Mexico.
39. Fathered 8 children; 5th child of A.W. Bratton
41. Editor of this newsletter
43. He and Ed married Resor sisters
44. 2nd wife of #9D
46. Brother of George & Norman; "Dad" to #31D.
48. Entrepreneur
51. Mr. Loso entertained us with fireworks at '91 reunion.
52. Our common progenitor
54. Courtney & Brittney's dad
55. He works at Channel 7 News in Seattle.
56. Forefather of the human race.
57. Miss Bratton plays the flute and "had Fun" at the '93 reunion.
58. He works at a "stud" mill.
59. Mother of #11D; recently visited in Australia

DOWN

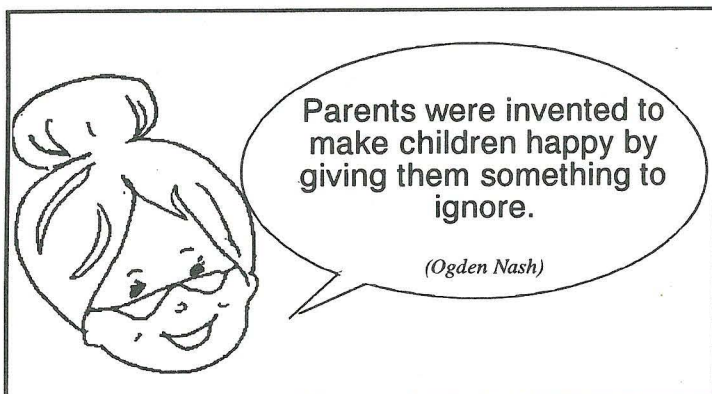
1. Child #7 for Charles
2. Mrs. Walton
4. Elizabeth & Dorothy's mother
5. Short for Robert
6. She wrote "Perspective" for Winter '93 ed.
10. Husband of #36A
11. Soft fabric or Becky's daughter
14. Soft-spoken, special lady remembered in Christmas '93 edition.
16. Phil's wife; lived to be 102.
18. Truck driver, Shriner, Arthur's son (Photo Vol. 2, Iss. 2)
20. He & Stella were of ten included in family gatherings.
23. She got an A+ recently on family tree project in school.
24. Mrs. T.J. Bratton; First name was really Minerva
25. Artist; teacher
26. Short for Barbara; Wife of #17A
27. Mr. Bratton & family were in "Names & Faces" Aor. '93.
29. She went to Ecuador in '93.
30. Retired dairy farmer
31. She remembered her cross-eyed teacher.
32. He wrote a paper for NASA on Mars Exploration.
33. Started it all! Born 1686, Ireland
34. Owned Bratton Printing Co.
36. Jim & Mattie Bratton McCall adopted her.
38. Eugenia; daughter of Bob & Maria Klein
40. Dreamed of becoming a cowboy
42. 7-year-old bowling champion
44. He took Clair to train station in Monmouth, IL, in 1911.
45. Allen & Julia's first born
47. He operates locks & dam in IA
49. Alexander Garland's mother; Lou's daughter
50. She & Pete visited Germany in '92.
53. She sings and dances like her grandparents did
54. Youngest son of #35 across.
55. Short for Dorothy; wife of #11A.

The Bratton Bulletin

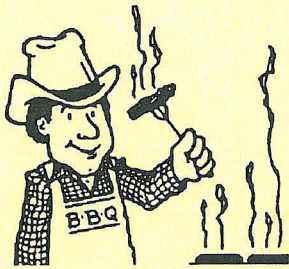
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested

Granny B. says ...



When does your subscription expire? Check your label.



Boring BBQ

Saturday, August 6, 1994

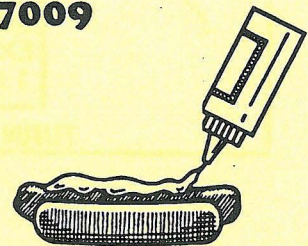
Stay all weekend if you want
We have room for tents, trailers, RV's (dry camping)
Motels within 7-10 miles
Lariat Gardens Bed & Breakfast within walking distance

Your Hosts:

Jeannie Wixom & Vickey Drennen
28860 SE Haley Rd. • Boring, OR • 97009

(503) 663-0834
or (503) 663-6387

Directions to our home are on the reverse side.



What to bring:

- Your swim suits & beach towels for the pool
- Talents for evening program
- Appetite
- Lawn chairs

Please fill out the form below and mail it to us no later than July 15, so we may plan accordingly.

☐

Yes! We will be there

☐

Can't make it

☐

Don't really know yet, but will call

Name _____

Address _____

Phone () _____ # Attending _____ # of days _____

Will you need to be picked up from airport or train or bus station? ____ Yes ____ No

Which? _____ Arrival Time/Day _____

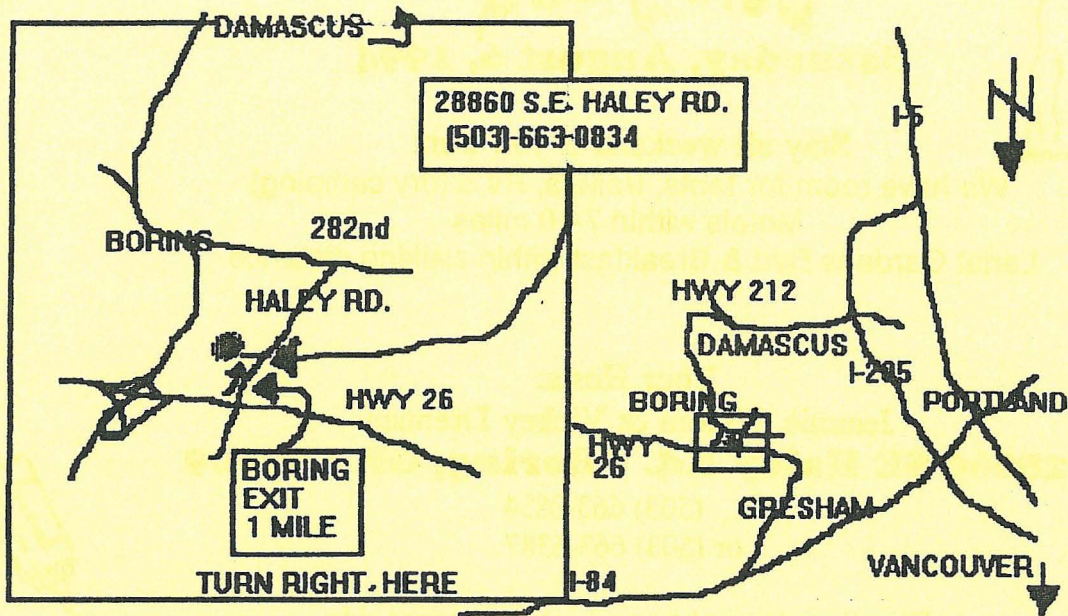
Flight/train/bus # _____

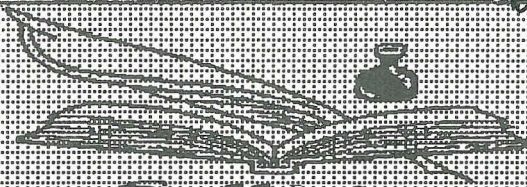
Will you be camping? ____ Yes ____ No If so, tent or type of R.V. _____

Other information we may need: _____

Please mail form to: BBQ Reservations • 28860 SE Haley Rd. • Boring, OR • 97009

Bratton 18





The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol. 3, Issue 4

April - June 1994

An Unobtrusive Life

Lesley Erle Bratton was the fourth child of Charles and Carrie Bratton. He was born in Oakville, Iowa, on July 12, 1893.

As a child, Erle helped on the farm with the rest of his brothers. He attended Prairie Point School along with the other younger Bratton children. [It's a wonder that Erle ever learned to correctly spell his name, though, as we have seen the spelling in various ways. We have found it spelled E-r-l-e on most affidavits, though it is often spelled E-a-r-l in correspondence. His first name also has been found spelled L-e-s-l-i-e.]

Parties were not frequent in those days, and the social life centered around Sunday school and Sunday afternoon gatherings, where two or more families would often get together after church. The adults would sit in the house and talk, and perhaps the men would stand around the corrals talking about horses and cattle. The kids would either mingle with the men to try to prove they were "grownups," too, or would segregate from the adults and entertain in their own ways. Sometimes the boys would indulge in activities too rough for the girls, like sliding down



Erle, Clair and Dale posing with their guns and rabbit pelts

the barn roof or trying out their rodeo skills.¹

Erle had a very quiet disposition like his mother's. (Because of this, he was nicknamed "Wind" by his brothers and friends—a name chosen because it was the opposite of his character. This nickname soon was shortened to "Win.") Erle enjoyed a good laugh, but rarely instigated teasing or joking. Because of his "shyness" he did not make friends very easily, though he enjoyed visiting with those he knew well.

Erle, Dale and Clair would often go hunting and fishing. Pelts were a good source of income, and rabbit and raccoon furs were easily accessible. Nellie Carlson remembers how the boys would go coon hunting in the evenings. She always longed

to go with them, "but girls weren't allowed to do that sort of thing back then." She recalls that she would lay in bed at night and could hear the dogs bay as they treed a coon.

At the age of 21, Erle was drafted for World War I. During the long hours of training and marching, Erle's legs would give out and he would fall. After some time, he was taken to the infirmary, and it was discovered that he had varicose veins. He received treatment, but it wasn't successful and was given a medical discharge.

Nellie recalls that a few years after Erle left the army (1919?) the levee broke near the Charles Bratton home. They had men walking the levee 24 hours a day to watch for possible

Continued on page 4

Family News & Notes

Keith and Babs Bratton are in the process of building a new home after the sale of their ranch in LeGrand, CA. The house is expected to be completed sometime this month!

* * *

The home of **Norval & Merlene Wixom** was destroyed by fire on February 1. One fireman obtained first-degree burns in the fire, as it quickly spread in the older mobile home. Not much was left of the contents in the trailer. Thankfully, Norval & Merlene were not home at the time. They are doing fine, and working at the clean-up operation to prepare the lot for another, newer mobile home.

* * *

7-year-old **Cody Lofthouse**, (grandson of David & Pat Martin Lofthouse) started his sports years early. He has been on a bowling team for over a year. His team, WE BE BOYZ, was in the City Tournament and went on to the State finals in Wheaton, IL, on Feb. 19th. They placed 2nd! Good goin', Cody! (See photo page 6)

* * *

Leonard and Viola (Martin) Herzman have been invited by friends to spend two weeks in Maui, Hawaii, in August. Vi says they are looking forward to doing something a little "different."

* * *

Dave Lofthouse informed his wife, **Patti** that he will be retiring from Caterpillar on April 1. Sounds like they're going to get a newer trailer and plan on doing some camping! Congratulations on your retirement, Dave!

* * *

Jacob Wyatt (son of Becky Klein Ryan) was sworn in as an official attorney at Albany, New York, on January 24. He is now associated with Baker & McKenzie Attorneys at law. Congratulations, Jake!

* * *

Becky Klein Ryan plans a trip from New York to Australia beginning March 23. She will be visiting a friend there for a couple months.

* * *

Earl and Tamzon Melos have been enjoying their motor home during their retirement years. They traveled to Texas in February and enjoyed their time there.

* * *

Ed and Bonnie (Loso) Wilson have had a time dealing with the results of an accident Ed had at work on February 10. His glove got caught in the recycling compactor and his left hand was severed. He is now going through therapy and is being fitted for a prosthesis. Bonnie says it doesn't stop him from bowling, as he is right-handed. Ed also golfs and has a good out-look about the situation.

* * *

After saving four years for a special trip, venturous

Elizabeth BrattonRuth flew to Port Isabel, TX, on February 6, to join her now retired son and daughter-in-law, **Glenn and Loretta**. They went fishing off San Padres Island and Glenn caught eight fish, as well as a stingray at one point. They enjoyed the palm trees and flowers, picking up hermit crabs, shells, and climbing rocks. They walked across the border into Progresso, Mexico, and enjoyed the market and tourist "lures." Elizabeth returned to her home in Greeley, CO, on Feb. 20th.

* * *



Congratulations to **Michele Bratton** of Des Moines, IA, and **Ed Stubbs** who announced their engagement on Christmas Day. The couple plan a March 1995 wedding. (Michele is the daughter of Greg and Karen Bratton, grand daughter of Robert and Rose Bratton, great granddaughter of Arthur Bratton.)

* * *

Harvey Bluedorn has been spending the winter writing a Greek grammar book for children, which will teach children to learn biblical Greek. He and **Laurie** hope to market the book through their business soon.

* * *

ADDRESS CHANGES

Greg & Karen Bratton
11912 Hwy 99 #126
Burlington, IA 52601

Becky Ryan
111 E. 14th St. #217
New York, NY 10003

After May 1:
Keith & Babs Bratton
home: 3747 McDowell St.
mailing: PO Box 0436
LeGrand, CA 95333

* * *

Kim Bratton (daughter of David & Cheryl Bratton) was selected as a flute accompanist for a vocalist in the Portland, OR, area. She will travel with her band from Stagg High School in Stockton, CA, to Portland on May 8th.

* * *

Zella (Bratton) Walton is keeping very busy these days. She plans to take a trip to France with her sister-in-law May 7-19. They will stay in a time-share resort in southern France, but hope to spend a couple of days in Paris. She says, "Needless to say, I'm excited!" But first ... she's helping with a church women's retreat in March, and with her sorority state convention in early May.

Grady is home and feeling much better after having been hospitalized a couple times since Christmas.

* * *

Christy Carow (daughter of Mike and Gloria Bratton Carow) will be leaving the cold climate in Wisconsin for a warmer one in Arizona. She will be spending Spring

(Continued on page 7)

In the Spotlight...



Ronna Melos Morse

(A telephone interview by Ruth Mickelson)

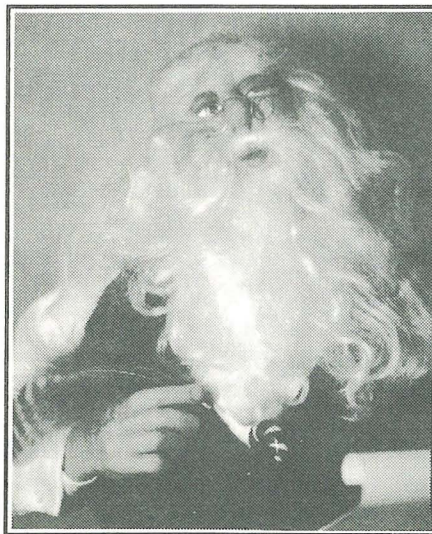
Two years ago, Ronna started making dolls as gifts for her family. With reservation in her voice, Ronna said, "I found a book on doll making, and just sat down and made a few from the directions. After working on several dolls, I took a few to a doll shop in town and started selling them."

By changing features and designs, as her own talents allowed, Ronna's dolls have become very unique. Each doll is created by hand sculpting oven-baked clay. She does not use any molds, so no two dolls are ever alike. She makes her own wigs from mohair, meticulously paints the features, and dresses the dolls. When completed, they are anywhere from 15-24" tall. She says she usually creates older characters, like an old man in a chair, but has done some children.

The daughter of Earl and Tamzon Haigh Melos, granddaughter of Leila and Percival Haigh, and the great granddaughter of Walter Bratton, Ronna admits she really doesn't know too much about her family's history. "My sister, Laurie, has done quite a bit on family research, though." (It was Laurie Bluedorn who suggested this article, as she is quite proud of her sister's accomplishments, as well.)

Ronna is married to Arlan Morse, a military captain working in the engineering field at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. Ronna and Arlan have three children: Chad, 21, who is attending Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas; Chris, 20, who is attending Rensselaer College in Troy, New York; and Ben, 16, and still at home.

Because of her husband's military career, Ronna says they have moved around alot. But they have been at Langley now for about three years. It's



Santa Claus—one of the first dolls Ronna made. Note the detail of Santa's hand.

always good when you have a hobby that you can take along with you when you move.

Ronna is very modest about her full-time hobby of doll making. She says, "I'm still in the learning process ... I learn more with each doll I make."



Olga—one of the newer dolls Ronna sculpted from Fimo or Cernit clay.

Her dolls have been featured in specialty magazines such as *Dolls: The collectors Magazine* and *Contemporary Dolls* magazine. These magnificent dolls sell for around \$350.00 each, and many feel they will become true collector's items. Ronna was quite elated to tell me that she had just sold four of her newest creations at a local doll show.

We will be featuring more of our family members, with interesting hobbies, in the next few issues of the Bratton Bulletin. If you have a family member with a unique hobby and would like to have him/her featured in the "Spotlight" column, please contact us. ■

An Unobtrusive Life—Continued from Page 1

breaks. "Grandpa, Clair, Erle and Dale were taking turns. It was Erle's turn at night. Clair had his turn and was resting. I suddenly woke up from all the loud talk. Erle had come into the house, his legs hurting him so badly, and Grandma and mom were wrapping his legs with strips of cloth. He wanted to go back out to the levee and continue his turn, and mom wanted to wake up one of the others ... and then Grandpa got in on it. After a lot of arguing, they convinced Erle to go to bed and Grandpa took the lantern and finished Erle's shift."

Erle worked with Clair as a commercial fisherman, and helped his father on the farm.

At the age of 34, Erle met a very pretty lady named Edna Ruth Brown Crose. She was newly divorced and had gone to stay with her sister on the farm just next to the Charles Bratton place, on the bay near New Boston. Her son, Robert, born to the marriage (1915), was taken by his father (Mr. Crose) to raise. Edna found it very difficult to have to give up her son. [In 1942, Robert married Beryl Barnhouse, a second cousin to Erle on the Hardin side of the family.¹]

Both Clair and Erle were still living at home with their parents, and both went to see Edna frequently. They both liked her very much. But, as both men wanted to "keep company" with her, there was a big hassle. Charles and Carrie finally stepped in to settle the disagreement. Erle won out and he and Edna were married on August



Erle and Edna Bratton, married August 23, 1928. The photo taken at Carlson Studio in Aledo, IL.

23, 1928. Erle and Clair were never close after that time.

Erle and Edna lived near Eastfield (just outside of Seaton, Illinois) for a few years after their marriage. Erle worked out for other people, helping on the farms, etc. One year, particularly, the crops were bad, except the sorghum cane. This was during the depression years, so to make ends meet, he set up a mill. He would cut the cane and mill it into sorghum. He would fill five- and ten-gallon cans of the syrup. He went from house to house selling it in whatever container the people had, from a pint to a gallon; and he also hauled it into town where he would sell it.

Nellie recalls that he took several cans of the syrup over to Katie. She would sell it to neighbors as they needed, then send the money to Erle and Edna.

Several years later, Erle and Edna moved to Seaton, Illinois. They resided there for 15 years, where they lived on a farm. Nellie doesn't recall that they

ever had livestock or equipment, though.

On May 11, 1956, Erle was on a ladder picking cherries. No one heard or saw anything, but Edna found him on the ground—dead. As there were no broken bones or other injuries, an autopsy was taken, and it was declared that Erle had a heart attack. He was buried at Greenmound Cemetery in Keithsburg, IL. He was a member of the Jehovah Witnesses.²

The couple never had any children of their own.

Following Erle's death, Edna moved to Monmouth and worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse in the Monmouth hospital. Several years later she married a man whose last name was Smith. "I don't remember when he died," Nellie says, "But Edna lived alone for several years, then went to live in a nursing home in Monmouth." After a few more years, she married another resident of the nursing home, Merrill Liggett (October 31, 1981). They were only married two years when she died (12 November, 1983) at the age of 86. She is buried in Keithsburg next to Erle. ■

¹ Thomas and Polly Hardin and Their Descendants, by Robert Allen Hardin, 1968, Norman, OK., Page 108, 147.

² Obituary - Steubinger Funeral Home, Keithsburg, IL

Couple Celebrates 45th Anniversary!



Don & Virginia Bratton

Forty-five years ago, Ernest and Florence Bratton of Joy, Illinois, and Joseph and Agnes Zimmerman gave away their children to be united in marriage.



Ernest (Don) Bratton and Virginia Zimmerman were married in a candlelight ceremony at Grace English

Lutheran Church in Muscatine, Iowa on March 27, 1949. Rev. David M. Funk officiated. Their Best man and Matron of Honor were Richard ("Short") and Pat Morrison.

Virginia wore a gown of white slipper satin with a fitted bodice and long sleeves. She had a fingertip veil and a Mary Queen of Scots Bonnet. She also wore

a very special gold locket and matching bracelet, which were a gift of the groom.

Don graduated from High School in New Boston, IL. Virginia graduated from Joy Community High School. Don served 20 months in the Marine Corps.

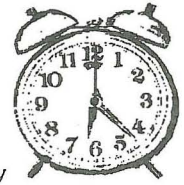
Don and Virginia are retired dairy farmers, who now reside in Westfield, Wisconsin. They have five daughters: Donna (Mrs. Steve) Nachtrab, of Van Dyne, WI; Gloria (Mrs. Mike) Carow, of Oshkosh, WI; Shirley (Mrs. Chris) Coomer of Tempe, AZ; Patti (Mrs. Steve) Pulver of Briggsville, WI; and Barb (Mrs. Scott) Starkey of Joliet, IL; and eleven grand children.

The couple were treated several years ago to a trip to Hawaii, by their children, in celebration of their 40th year together. This year's celebration was spent a little less extravagantly, but they felt much love from their family and those who visited and sent good wishes.

We extend our sincere best wishes to Don and Virginia Bratton on the celebration of this special anniversary. You may send your best wishes (even if a little belated) to Don and Virginia at: Rt. #2, Box 149 Westfield, WI 53964

As Time Goes By

As time goes by one thing is so sad,
That some children grow up never knowing their dad.



And there are others who may never know,
Who their Grandparents were or where did they go.
If for you, the above is true, here are some things that you should do.

Go post haste and talk to a few, Grandparents, an Aunt or an Uncle or two.

Write down the things you have seen or heard,
Along with the places and dates they occurred.

On the back of photos, new and old,
Record who, when and where
So the facts will unfold
For how many times, when viewing an old print,
You were not sure, who they were, or what the event.

As time goes by, you often hear someone say,
"I wish I had asked Grandma about that before she passed away."

As time goes by, you must agree,
memories slip away,
And written records become the only history.

And if in your search,
you find a skeleton now and then.
You will now know why you and Cousin Jane are so close kin.

As time goes by, and you don't act,
it will become more difficult to prove a fact.
So if I were you, I would begin this day,
to trace my lineage without delay.

As time goes by, as only it can,
I hope this inspires you in tracing your clan.

--Warren Houck, 1993

NAMES & FACES 1994

Recent family photos we've received and are sharing to help you become acquainted with other Bratton families.

"Nothing is more meaningful than life within a family."



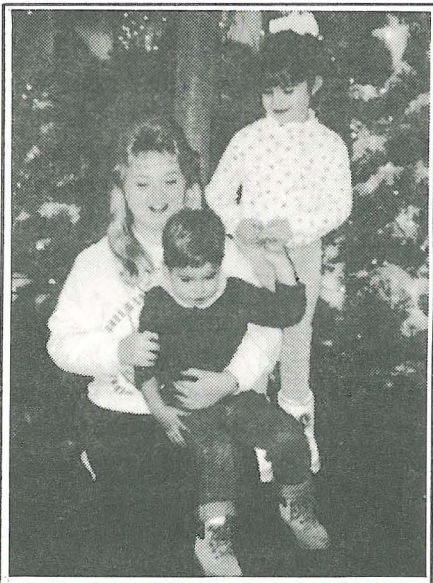
The James C. Stephens, Jr. Family: (Back) James, Rachel, Leah (Front) Mary, Rebekah (on lap) and Sarah. Mary is the daughter of Norval and Esther Bratton Wixom.



The Greg Bratton Family: (Clockwise) Greg, Michele, Teri and Karen. Greg is the son of Robert & Rose Bratton, grandson of Arthur Bratton.

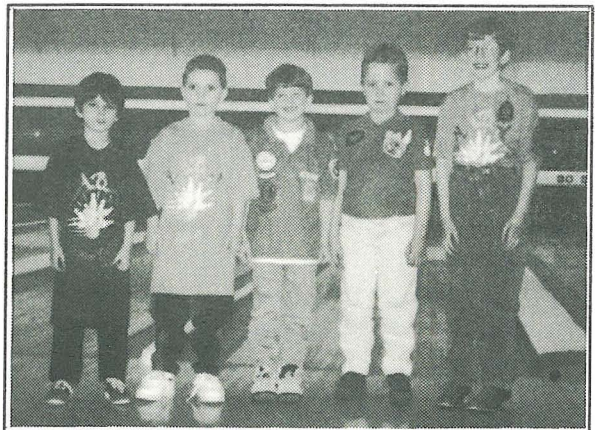


Becky Klein Ryan (Becky is the daughter of Robert & Oneta Bratton Klein and the granddaughter of Ernest & Florence Bratton.)



Monica Martin and children, Nicholas & Kimberly Rosenbaum. Monica is the daughter of Dorothea (Kay) Martin Parker, and granddaughter of Dorothy Bratton Martin Jeffers.

(L-R) Joe Martin, (son of Kay Martin Parker), Dorothy Jeffers, Patti Lofthouse, and Jacquie Lofthouse. In front are Kim and Nic Rosenbaum.



At right: The City Champs ... the WE BE BOYZ bowling team. Cody Lofthouse is 3rd from the left.

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is a column for questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.



Are you in close contact with your extended family members? Perhaps you're just the person we're looking for! We would like one or two individuals from each family line to act as "reporters" for the *Bratton Bulletin* to help save our long distance costs. The job would require communication with your family. Only a few minutes out of a three-month period for the newsletter would be required, however. If you would be interested in this easy, yet fulfilling, office please contact us [Ruthie (503)663-6387, Jeannie (503) 663-0834.] Thank you!

Olympic-size pride!

It seems that the Olympics took on a special interest in the Mike Carow family this year. Mike's father, William Carow, was a speed skater, representing the U.S. from Madison, Wisconsin, in the 1956 Olympics in Italy, and 1960 at Squaw Valley, CA. I'd say that was cause for a little family pride, wouldn't you?!

Family Tree Climbing

The *Bratton Bulletin* came in handy for Amy Wilson (daughter of Ed & Bonnie Loso Wilson) this term, as she had the difficult project of producing a family tree for school. By using the idea of the 1980 tree chart and using photos from past newsletters, Amy was able to reproduce a new tree. She received an A+ on her assignment! Good job, Amy!

Let's Get Together!

If you have not yet heard, y'all are invited to join us in Boring, Oregon, for a special Barbeque.

August 5, 6, and 7 (1994) has been set for this event. The actual barbeque will be held on Saturday, the 6th, but all are welcome to come (and stay as long as you want) and/or go as you please. Bring your beach balls, towels and bathing suits—as well as your talents for the entertainment—and be ready to have a blast!

We have not heard definites from anyone, as yet, and we would appreciate having some advance notice to aid us in knowing how to plan. There is always room for tents, R.V.'s, etc., but if you plan to camp, we would also like to know in advance. You can write to the address on the back page, or call Jeannie Wixom (503) 663-0834 or Ruthie Mickelson (503) 663-6387.

Colorado Springs, Colorado, is the location for the 1995



Mark Your Calendar!

Bratton Reunion. Timber Lodge will be the main location for the gathering. An information sheet was mailed with the Christmas issue of this newsletter. *If you or someone in your family did not receive this sheet, please jot a*

note and we'll see that you get one.

■ ■ ■

It's nearing graduation time again



... and we want to wish a hearty *Congratulations* to our 1994 Grads! As we don't want to miss anyone, please send a photo (if you have one), date and place of graduation and future plans. We will have a special section in the next issue of the *Bratton Bulletin*.

News & Notes

(Continued from page 2)

break there, with her aunt Shirley and Uncle Chris Coomer. This will be her first airplane flight (that she can remember) and she is really excited about the trip.

* * *

The Boring bunch had a birthday bash to celebrate several birthdays, and came from miles around for the excitement on March 4. Duke Heimbigner and Maryan Bratton came from Renton, WA., and managed to keep Jeannie Wixom busy for a few hours, while Vickey pulled a big "surprise" on her—which has been impossible to do for the last 36 years! Sixteen people attended her surprise party. Kim Wixom also hit the big "30" this year.

* * *

Answer to "Circle of Zigzags" on page 8:

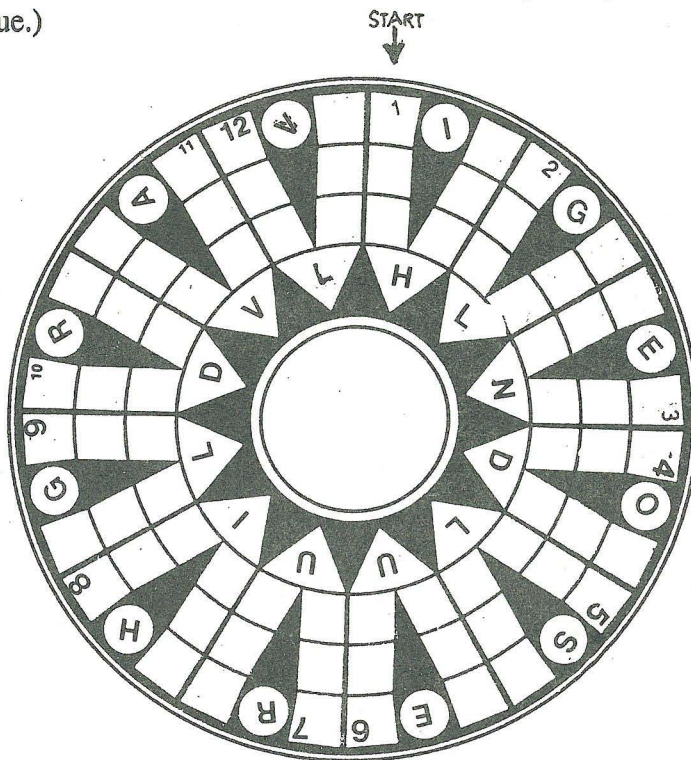
1. Without, 2. Hemline, 3. Abandon, 4. Leading, 5. Implant, 6. Visuals, 7. Estuary, 8. Insight, 9. Italian, 10. Sardine, 11. Trivial, 12. Incline. QUOTE: "With genealogists, everything is relative."

CIRCLE OF ZIGZAGS

Bratton 26

The 7-letter answers to the clues move inward from the numbers set in the outside ring and zigzag back. We have given you the middle letter of each answer word. When all the clues are answered, you will find a quotation in the outermost ring by reading all of the letters in a clockwise direction, beginning with number 1. (Solutions will be found in this issue.)

1. Outside, beyond
2. Garment ending or seam
3. Discard, leave
4. Guiding, directing
5. Instill, graft, embed
6. Optical devices or graphic elements
7. Fiord, loch
8. Discern, perceive
9. Native of Italy
10. Small herring
11. Petty, common
12. Slope, lean, slant

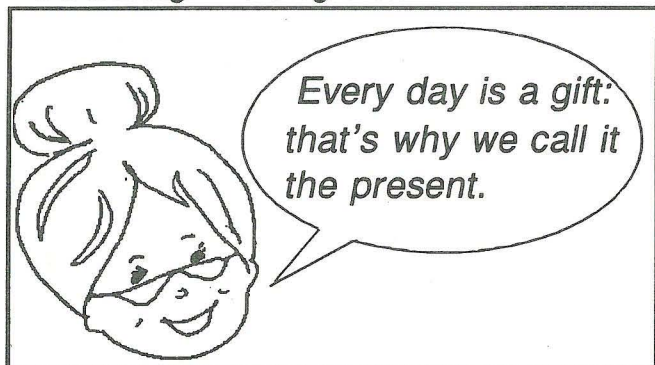


The Bratton Bulletin

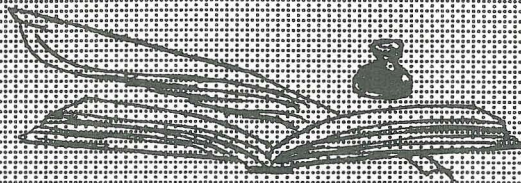
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction requested

Granny B. says ...



**WHEN DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP
EXPIRE??
CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL**



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol 3, Iss. 3

January-March 1994

Clair Bratton ... A Man and His River

Born near Oakville, Iowa, on Thanksgiving Day 1888, Clair Wilson Bratton was the second child of Charles and Carrie Bratton.

Clair was only two years and four days old when his sister Katie was born, and could not speak very plainly. Carrie used to recall that when Clair first saw his sister he would say "See-see chee-hard," meaning "Sister, Sweetheart." He later shortened it and then always referred to her or about her as "Sis."

The family's home then was in a small grove of trees on the river bank at the foot of Black Hawk Chute. Clair attended school and church on Huron Island, and was always awed by the Mississippi River and the events taking place in the area.

During those days, Clair recalled that bark would come off the pine logs and drift in along the banks. When Charles was gone boating or into the city to trade, Carrie and the kids would often go along and gather the bark and carry it home to burn as wood. Clair said only the outside would be wet, and it only took a short time for it to dry in order to burn.

When Clair was 16 years old, Charles gave him his L.C. Smith shot gun, he had bought second-hand; but as Clair said, "... It was a real gun even if it had been used



Clair and a prize squirrel

alot." The first fall he had it, one of the Charbonneaux boys who was used to hunting, went out frequently to shoot. Butch Charbonneaux would bring two or three boxes of common shells and shoot. Several of the men (and boys) would later go together ... "And don't you think I felt big," Clair said. He was later given a nice corduroy hunting cap and shell vest ... "And I felt as big as President Teddy Roosevelt." Clair had a water Spaniel that he said "I don't believe was ever beat at squirrel hunting."

How high the waters would get in the Spring, and how the ice would break up from the Winter freeze, were also things he noted. He remembered as a young man that it was common in the winter to see and hear the "young folk driving on the river ... hearing the sleigh bells on the driving horse and in the sleighs; and before the snows would

come, there would be skating parties on a moon-lit night and there were some real fancy skaters of both men and women."

Sunday School picnics were also common occurrences. Note the news article (below) of Thursday, September 21, 1905, that detailed the event.

"Huron Island Picnic—Notwithstanding the threatening weather, the Sunday School picnic on Huron Island last Wednesday was a real success. With a bountiful dinner in the grove and an entertainment in the church, everyone was caused to be well satisfied. The following program was rendered:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Hymn | Joy To the World |
| Reading from the Bible | Matthew 7 |
| Prayer by Mrs. Charbonneaux | |
| Hymn | Sunshine in my Soul Today |
| Recitation | Myrtle Gottschalg |
| Recitation | Florence Resor |
| Song by four little girls. | |
| Recitation | Grace Charbonneaux |
| Recitation | Katie Bratton |
| Solo | Edward Bratton |
| Selection | Beulah Resor |
| Recitation | Mrs. Paul Charbonneaux |
| Hymn | Shall we gather at the River |
| Recitation | Stella Resor |
| Recitation | Inez Charbonneaux |
| Song | Home, Sweet Home |
| Recitation | Geneva Resor |
| Hymn | More About Jesus |
| Address | Sunday School Superintendent |
| Closing Address | Mrs. Mattie Gottschalg |
| Closing Hymn | "God be with you 'til we meet again." |

In the Absence of Rev. Benizinger, who was expected and hoped for, his place was filled by the Superintendent." [Hamilton Resor]

Clair kept immaculate hand-written diaries of weather reports and family dates and events. He recalled much about the near-yearly floods, he detailed information about the boating and

(Continued on page 4)

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:



Pam Bratton
7476 E. Arkansas Ave. #3405
Denver, CO 80231-2547
* * *

Ray and Karren Loso
15201 State Route 530 NE
Arlington, WA 98223
* * *


Louise Bratton Pantone
5410 W. 190th St., Apt. #24
Torrence, CA 90503
* * *

Margaret Bratton
RR #2
Monmouth, IL 61462-9802
* * *

Brian & Tammy Rogers
2126 Brookdale Dr.
Merced, CA 95340-1710
* * *

Greg & Gail Bratton will be moving to Richmond, Indiana, in the Spring. Greg has been transferred in his business and is now commuting to and from Auburn on the weekends, until school gets out and the family can join him.

Our sympathies are extended to Gail, whose mother passed away in November.
* * *

 Congratulations to **Gary & Pat Bratton**, who adopted a handsome baby boy and named him **Michael Robert Bratton**. Michael was born on September 23, 1993. Welcome to the family, Michael! (See photo on page 6)

Maryann Bratton will be flying to Florida this month, to spend some time with them and her new grandson.
* * *

Wanda (Walton) Poelman graduated from The Travel Academy in Anchorage, Alaska, as valedictorian and president of her class. She is now classified as an Air Cargo Specialist.
* * *

Congratulations are in order for **Mike Rassi** and **Jill Blair**. Mike surprised Jill with an engagement ring in November. They plan an August 1994, wedding.
* * *



Shirley Bratton Coomer finished her schooling, at the University of Phoenix, with a Masters degree in Business Administration last fall. Her family must be very proud of her, as **Chris** surprised Shirley with a limousine ride to graduation exercises and a bottle of champagne after the ceremony. Congratulations, Shirley!
* * *

Rick Thomas is taking a few courses at Marycrest College in Iowa, and hopes to get through in another year or a little more. He continues to work for the Corp of Engineers.
* * *

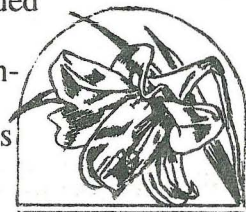
Lorraine (Thomas) Perlman is undergoing four months of chemotherapy. We wish her a quick road to recovery.
* * *

Nellie Carlson traveled to Virginia to spend the Christmas holiday with her daughter, **Alfreda & Alan Rulis and family**.
* * *

Our sincere sympathies are extended to the family of **Estel Bratton**, who passed away Tuesday, December 21, 1993, in Las Vegas, Nevada. He had suffered with various cancers and illnesses for twelve years.

Estel was an Army veteran of WW II. He was retired from the trucking industry. He was a member of various organizations: Century Lodge 190 F&AM, Acacia Lodge 49 F&AM, Scottish Rite, Zelzah Shrine Temple and Northstar No. 33 OES, and a 40-year member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1753.

He is survived by his wife, Myla, of Las Vegas, NV; brother, Earl of Bodega Bay, CA; and sisters, Elizabeth Ruth of Greeley, CO.; and Dorothy Jeffers of Peoria, IL.
* * *



*With
Sympathy*

Mark Rassi's new father-in-law passed away on Christmas Day following by-pass surgery. Mark was looking forward to farming with his father-in-law. Our sympathies are extended to Mark and Lucinda.
* * *

Ethel Rassi is recuperating at Wayne and Jodi Rassi's home after a hospital stay. We wish you a quick recovery, Ethel!
* * *

Grady Walton was able to get home on Christmas eve after being hospitalized with pneumonia. We are very glad to hear he's doing so much better.

In the
Spotlight...

Elizabeth Bratton Ruth

--Interviewed by
Sherrie L. Ruth Wilson

My grandmother's name is Elizabeth Zella Bratton Ruth. She was born on October 13, 1914, in Newton, Iowa. Her father was Arthur Bratton. Her mother (Iva Delia Shafer Bratton) died when she was four years old, after which she lived with her grandmother.

Her grandmother died when Elizabeth was ten years old. Next, she moved in with her father and stepmother, Naomi, and two half-brothers, Earl and Estel.

The only sport Elizabeth was involved in during her youth was softball. When she was a Junior in High School she got her nose broken.

Grandma recalls one thing that is funny now, that happened while her mother was hemming a dress for Elizabeth. Elizabeth began eating at one end of a spool of thread. After she had ingested quite an amount of thread her mother realized what Elizabeth had been doing, and in a panic, began feeding the child bread until she knew the thread had left Elizabeth's body. Because of the panic, Elizabeth says it was not funny at the time, but it sure is now.

Elizabeth couldn't think of a hero or heroine, but she did think of a

person she thought a lot of. That person was her cousin, Helen, who was her father's niece.

Helen gave Elizabeth some extra attention that she needed. She remembers Helen giving her piano lessons and doing her hair for her often.

At age fifteen, Elizabeth was living in Hastings, Nebraska.

About four years later a boxing competition came to town. She met a fighter named Glenn Ruth. Glenn ended up losing his fight, but he asked Elizabeth out for coffee.

They both must have had a good time

because after Glenn went home to Amarillo, Texas, they wrote back and forth for

a few weeks. Glenn sent Elizabeth money to meet him at the bus station in Denver. One day after getting to Denver, they went to Craig, Colorado, got a marriage license and got married by a Justice of the Peace. (They

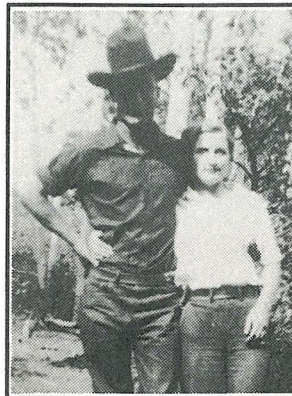
eventually got married by a preacher in 1951 at Raton, New Mexico.) Glenn and Elizabeth lived on a homestead in Craig for awhile. That is where they had their only child (my father) Glenn George Ruth.

Elizabeth spent her married life being a housewife and mother. Glenn was a "hatter" and also made rubber stamps. Later in life he ran the American Legion. Glenn died of Alzheimer's disease in 1986.

Throughout her life, Elizabeth lived in Iowa, Illinois, Colorado, Nebraska, and Texas. Today she lives in Greeley, Colorado.

Elizabeth has one child, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She says she enjoys doing just about everything. A few things she enjoys are movies, crocheting, reading and socializing.

Concerning advice or something to share, Elizabeth said she shouldn't have been so hasty about getting married, and should have pursued an education. What I can tell you is that she is a very kind and loving woman, who I love a lot and I appreciate her love and kindness very much. ■



Glenn, Sr. & Elizabeth Bratton Ruth on their homestead in 1935.

... 100 Years Ago ...

It's interesting to note that in 1894:

Benny Kubelski (Jack Benny) was born

James J. Corbett was Heavyweight Champ

Grover Cleveland was President of the USA

Edison's motion picture camera was given 1st public showing

U.S. troops break the Pullman strike

Popular tunes were: "Airy, Fairy Lillian" and "Her Eyes Don't Shine Like Diamonds"

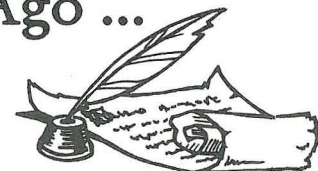
The first dog licensing law went into effect in New York

Store prices included:

Flour/ 5 lbs was \$.12

Bacon/ lb was \$.14

Eggs/dozen \$.20



A Man and His River...

Continued from page 1



Clair on the mississippi River in the boat that he built.

commerce on the river before the days of gas engines. He later wrote in his diary ... "I longed for the day I could be a sailor on the deep blue sea; but my childhood dreams all went haywire."

Clair was very competent in the art of boat building. He built at least one boat of his own, and even won several races on the river. On August 22, 1906, the Oakville newspaper read:

Clair Bratton, with a row boat, raced with a gasoline launch down from Keithsburg the other day, and it is said he came out ahead. Surely a good record he made.

Clair was often referred to as "Doc" by his older brother, Ed, and other friends. "Newt" was also used as a nickname by others who knew him. As an adult, Clair would often visit friends and family. He kept details on family events, and he had a little autograph book and had friends and relatives sign it whenever he went.

When he was 23, Clair went to Little York, Illinois, to visit George and Norman Bratton. He recalled: "On Easter Sunday, March 27, 1911, Norm took me to Little York to catch a train to Monmouth and it misted rain, and by the time the train came there was heavy thunder storms and also it started to snow. By the time the Inter-urban car left Monmouth for Galesburg, it sure was snowing, and such awful

thunder storms! I got off at Cone's Crossing then I carried a heavy suitcase and walked 2 1/4 miles south to J.B. Loso's, a son of one of Gail's farmers..." The snow was heavy and there was much thunder and lightning. By the time he got to the Loso's there was over eight inches of snow and it was still storming. By the time it quit there was ten inches or more on the ground.

Clair worked on the farm and hunted, but he later fished commercially between jobs for a living. He tried his hand at photography, and later worked at the steel mills at Pittsburgh; he worked as a fireman at the Brickyards in East Galesburg, Illinois; at the PT boat yard at Seneca building line barges during the War; in a railroad yard in Peola, Kansas, (where he froze his feet very badly); at Gales factory in Galesburg; and at Admiral until his retirement in 1965. Clair proclaimed himself as a "Jack of all trades ... and Master of none."

Nellie tells us the following story: "When he worked at the brickyard in East Galesburg, during World War I, things usually closed down for the winter due to the clay (used to make the bricks) freezing and becoming hard to dig. He read in the newspapers that there was a big demand for workers in the Pittsburg steel mills, as they were building ships and guns and wapons for the war, so he went out there. He got the job right away because he had experience firing the brick kilns and was conditioned to stand the hundreds of degrees of heat. He worked in the smelting furnace department where they have the huge iron kettles to melt the iron ore. The kettles were hung from over head tracks and when the ore was melted to liquid they pulled it by ropes attached to the top, along the track on wheels to where the molding forms were, then tipped it so the

liquid steel poured into the molds. This caused a shower of liquid, red-hot sparks to fly in all direction. The men all wore heavy canvas that covered their arms, body and legs, heavy work shoes and gloves so their clothes would not get on fire. One of the sparks went into Clair's eye and, of course, he was taken to the hospital, but it was too late to save the sight. He was in the hospital for a week or two to be sure there was not any infection, and was dismissed and sent home. Of course, in those days there were no unions, so he could not get a pension or any compensation of any kind, only they did pay part of the hospital bill I guess. Anyway, when spring came and they started the brick yards again, he got his old job firing kilns back and went to work. He never let it become a handicap. Since then, the workers in the steel mills wear protective head gear."

Clair was quite verbal as to his feelings of the dams and levees being put in to keep the flooding down. He was not happy with "the government." By 1939 the last resident moved off the Island and Huron Island is now completely covered by water. Clair would never forget his boyhood days on that island in the Mississippi.

In later years, Clair had several hobbies, but his favorite was collecting shotshells and cartridges, which he had done for over 70 years. His knowledge on early shotshells was extensive. At one time, Clair had one of the largest collections of shot gun shells in the mid-west. He bought and sold and made money with his hobby.

Clair died June 27, 1979, in Georgetown Manor Nursing Home in Aledo, Illinois.

The August (?), 1979 issue of *The Gun Report* contained several notes from friends, who were also cartridge collectors, that Clair had kept in contact with through the years. One of his friends, Louis Behling, said "... Mr. Bratton pur-

(Continued on page 7)

The Origin of the Bratton Surname

Have you ever really thought about your surname? A name isn't necessarily just a name. The origin of surnames is credited primarily to tax collectors who needed a reliable system to distinguish one individual from another.

The Bratton surname is a *hereditary* surname. Hereditary surnames have been around in the Western world for about 700 years, but few can trace progenitors back as far as even the 13th century, because records just did not exist.

In England, surnames began about the time of the Norman Conquest (1066). In Ireland, surnames have been found as early as the beginning of the 10th century. Clans developed from the branching of large families. Each new family within the seventh generation was required to take a new surname. Thus the Irish possessed a system of family surnames before most of Western Europe. (Most European surnames were formed in the 13th and 14th centuries.)

We know that the Bratton surname originated in England, as the area around Wiltshire, the great white horse, etc. have the Bratton name. This leads us to believe that the Bratton's must have been well-known and well thought of.

The earliest mention of Bratton, that we know of, is found about 1162, when Robert de Bratton [of Bratton] was with William the Conqueror. He went from England to Ireland during the reign of Elizabeth I.

The richer and more powerful classes acquired surnames earlier

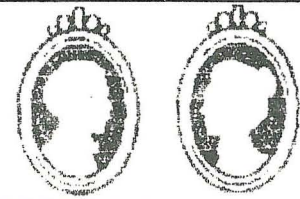
than the lower classes or peasants. People often acquired a surname because of occupation, rank, physical features around them (such as marshes, streams or hills), status (as in the names King, Bishop or Prior), or derived from names of animals and birds (such as Fox and Peacock). Other surnames were originally nicknames, referring either to the appearance or character of an ancestor.

There are two types of surnames. *Polygenetic* surnames, like Smith and Brown, were coined independently in many different places. It is usually impossible to identify the original bearer of such names. *Monogenetic* surnames are those which have a single origin, often derived from a single bearer or family of bearers at a particular place and time.

We feel that the Bratton surname is Monogenetic. However, the name Bratton came from a locality in Old English, meaning "newly cultivated or broken-up farm", such as those in Devon, Somerset, Wilts ... but places in Salop and Somerset are named by "place on a brook"

Considering that some surnames originated from animals and birds, aren't we lucky that we're not the "Swinetons" or the "Moosegrins"? See, a name ISN'T just a name. This knowledge about our ethnic background is important for us as we continue to find clues to our heritage. ■

--Information primarily obtained from
Myra Vanderpool Gormley's
Genealogy Column,
© 1993, LA Times Syndicate;
and from *What's In A Name*
by Leonard R. N. Ashley
© 1989, Genealogical Publishing Co.,
Inc., Baltimore, MD.;
and *Penguin Dictionary of Surnames*,
by Basil Cottle ©1978, Cox & Wyman,
Ltd., Great Britain.



ANCESTORS

--by WH Zoschak (A Slovak)

What's in a name?
The talented poet asked.
Look deep listen;
The pulse of our ancestors.
The heartbeat of nations past ...
Land, language, faith.

Look into a name
What do you see?
Letters only? Look deeper.
See the people who lived that name.
Not letters, but flesh and blood.
Flesh to our flesh. Blood to our blood.
Faith to our faith.
Ancestors.

You who bore my name,
were your thoughts passed to me?
Do I dream your dreams?
The sun you saw I see.
The moon plays for us both.
Days are days, years are years.
But centuries separate us.

You who lived centuries ago
with my name.
Did you see me then?
You have not left this earth! You live in
my name. You live in me.
I give you earthly immortality. My eyes
see a different land.
My ears hear different sounds.
But we worship in unison.
The God of your youth.

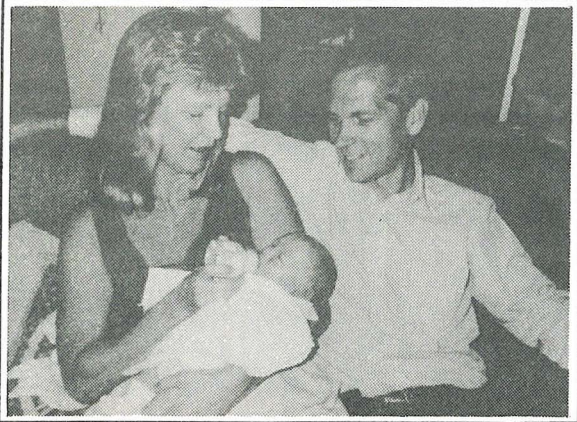
My faith you have given me.
The God who watched over you
watches over me.
Centuries collapse as faith unites.

Leave you, my ancestor?
I could never leave you without leaving
myself.
I take pride in you.
The soil of your homeland rests in
my heart.
Your native language is the melody
of your dreams.
I look into your name
And see myself.

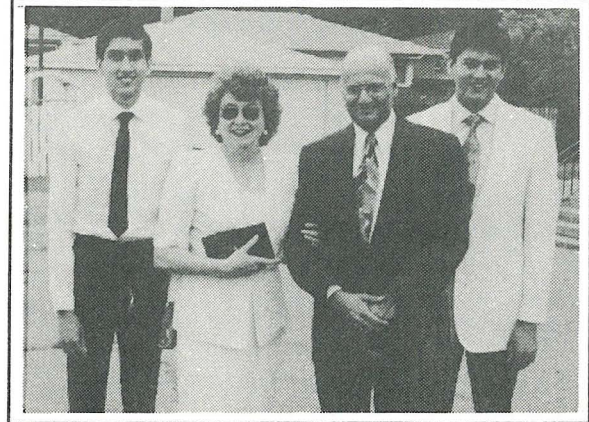
NAMES & FACES 1993-1994

Recent family photos we've received and are sharing to help you become acquainted with other Bratton families.

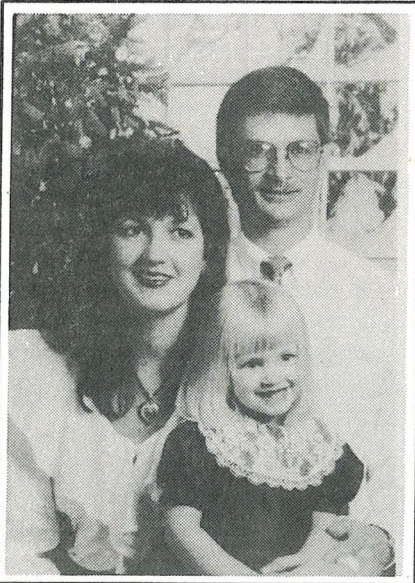
"Where there is room in the heart, there is always room in the house"



Adoptive parents, Gary and Pat Bratton and their new-born, Michael Robert.



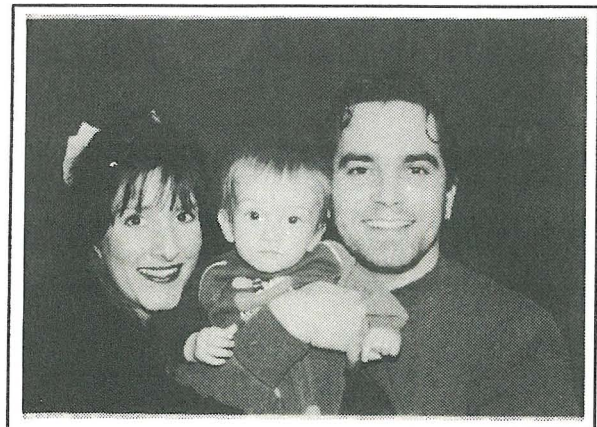
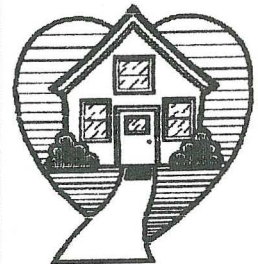
The Sam Naseem Family: (L-R) Pat, Dorothy (Bratton), Sam and Mike



Dave, Kim and Danica (age 2½) Wixom



The Jeff Hynes Family: Jeff and Linda (Pantone) and Stephanie



The Kevin Garland Family: Lisa (Pantone), Kevin and Alexander

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is a column for questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

Communication Works!

Shirley Thomas and Elizabeth Ruth are now corresponding, as a result of this newsletter. (That's what it's all about, folks!)

Elizabeth says, "Shirley's grandfather was my Uncle and her great grandfather was my grandfather. Guess that makes us neplings?--ha!"

* * *

Correction: In the Cohea family photo (October issue) two of the names were reversed: Meganne is standing and Susan is sitting by her dad. Sorry!

* * *

Dates Set for Boring (Oregon) Barbeque

August 5, 6, and 7, 1994, has been set for the "Boring Barbeque." The actual Barbeque will be held on Saturday, the 6th, but all are welcome to come (and stay as long as you want) and/or go as you please. Bring your beach balls, towels and bathing suits—as well as your talents for the entertainment—and be ready to have a blast! This is going to be a very informal event, but if you plan to attend, we would appreciate having some advance notice to aid in the purchasing and preparation of food. You can write to the address on the back page, or call either Jeannie (503) 663-0834 or Ruthie (503) 663-6387. Oh, by the way, there is always room for tents and R.V.'s!

* * *



"Forwarding & Address Correction Requested"

You may have noticed this phrase under the return address on your newsletter. This is to aid in our keeping a list of addresses as current as possible. The U.S. Postal Service will forward on the newsletter, (which usually delays your delivery) and notify us of the address change. For each address correction we receive, we pay the Post Office an additional 35¢. To help keep expenses down, if you know your new address ahead of time, please fill out a card at the post office and mail it to us or drop us a line to notify us. *We'd appreciate it!*

* * *

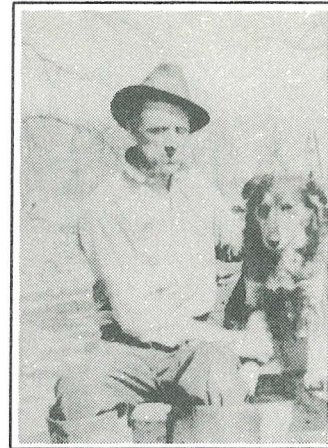


Do you have a special parent/grandparent in the Bratton line that you would like to see featured in our Spotlight column? Send us your notes (and a photo, if possible) and we'll do some research (if needed) for a future article.

Does someone in your family have an unusual or specialized hobby? Let us know about it and we'll feature them in a future issue.

A Man and His River— Continued from page 4

sued his love of gathering together one of the best collections of shotshells of his time. ... 'Newt' did



Clair and his dog, Idle

not live in a mansion as we might figure a mansion, but you always felt that you were completely at home when you

were there. ... During the hunting season I stopped by a number of times to inform him on the Fall flight of ducks. These were especially enjoyable visits as many of the areas I hunted on the Mississippi River were the same ones he had hunted many years earlier. In fact, one of my favorite spots was an out-of-the-way pond that he told me to hunt when the water started to freeze. It produced many fine days of hunting ..."

Clair made many friends in his 90 years, who will never forget him. He was probably the best-known member of the Charles Bratton family, because of his out-going personality; and when asked about the family, many will specifically mention that they remember Clair. He was very family-oriented, although he never married.

He is buried in the Bratton plot in Greenmound Cemetery at Keithsburg, Illinois, ... not far from his beloved River. ■

Answers to Dinnertime Puzzle:

Yawning, seeks, ratatat, sober, false teeth, hoods, bison, notch

"Snobs talk as if they had begotten their own ancestors."

Dinner time Family Challenge

Figure out the hidden "truism" by following these steps to the puzzle:

1) Using definitions, fill in as many words as you can. 2) Transfer letters onto the solution spaces—matching numbers. 3) Work back and forth from solution to words to find possible clues.

Answers will be found in this issue.

Expressing boredom

17 10 35 28 12 36 23

Tried to find, Looks

45 16 40 9 1

Sound of rapid tapping

(3 wds)

44 37 6 7 29 19 25

Not drunk

1 24 21 27 33

"Choppers" (2 wds)

13 7 8 5 40 14 31 22 42 15

Head coverings on capes or parkas

30 3 34 20 11

Buffalo

4 32 41 43 2

Groove, Chip, or Crack

38 24 26 39 18

" 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 "

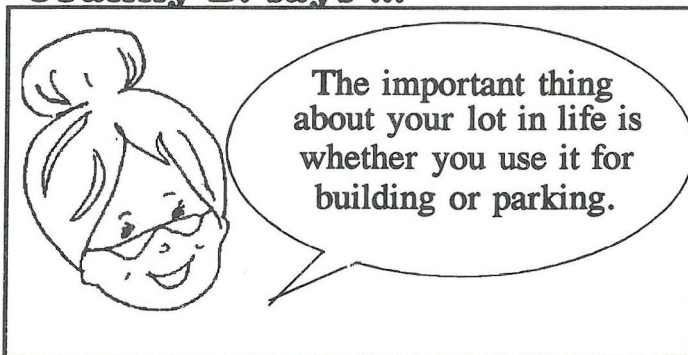


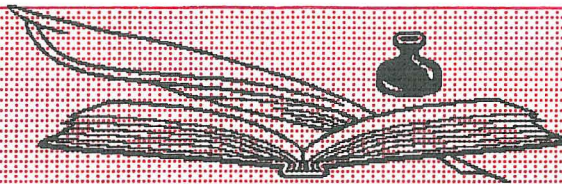
The Bratton Bulletin

Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction requested

Granny B. says ...





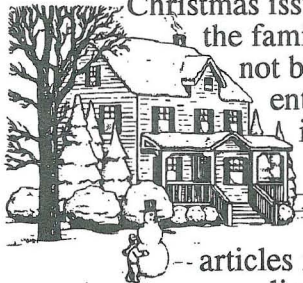
The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Special Edition 1993


Christmas Often Brings Back Fond Family Memories ...

... We have had a wonderful response again this year for our Christmas issue. Some of the families may not be represented in this issue; in fact, we did not divide the articles into family lines this



year. We have allotted as much space as possible for past photos and memories or traditions, that many wanted to share. We trust that we will be able to recognize names faces a little better, as we're beginning to get better acquainted. Sit back and relax and enjoy this special issue!

Santa Sent It to Grandpa?!

 When I was 7, Santa brought me the baby doll I had wanted for a long time (in those days we only got toys at Christmas and maybe birthdays.) But I happened to see an address on the box and it said 'W.E. Bratton' and his address. I thought that was so funny that Santa had dropped it off

at grandpa's first instead of my house. I'll never forget that.

-- Tamzon Haigh Melos

Homemade Gifts of Love

I don't believe I ever really believed in a literal Santa Claus, but it seems I've always known about giving gifts because of the love for the recipient.

One year, as with many, our family had no money to purchase Christmas presents, so we decided to make some ourselves. The little sisters, Louise and Dorothy, probably had dolls, because the gifts were beds and bedding. Dad and Keith made two little wooden beds and painted them blue with red trimming. (This is the color I remember, but this was a long time ago so my memory may be dim.) Mom and I got busy and made little mattresses and pillows from things we had around the house. From old sheets we made pillow cases and sheets, and I believe they may have had blue feather stitching embroidery work. We also pieced two little patchwork quilts. They all seemed beautiful and I loved doing it—for after all, they were MY little sisters!

Perhaps the favorite gifts I received were books. I still have my *Gingerbread Boy* and *Little*

Black Sambo books and probably several more. One year from a neighbor, I received a tea set which I still have. The pieces are made of beautiful green glass. There are two plates, two cups and saucers and a tall teapot with a lid! When we have a little girl visitor we even now get them out for a tea party.

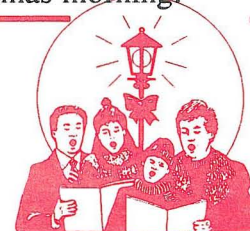
Christmas does, indeed, seem to be a time of lovingly giving and receiving, establishing memories, and experiencing a renewal of values.

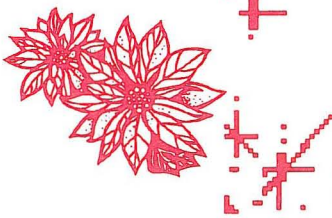
--Zella Bratton Walton

It All Began With The Program

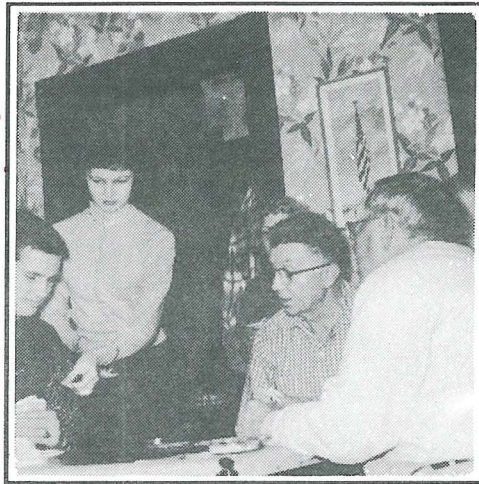
We always went as a family to church on Christmas eve. We kids always had a few lines to memorize. We would spend many Saturdays at church practicing for these Christmas Eve Programs. We would go back to our class rooms and there was a bag of candy for us, which was great! Sometimes when we came out of church, after the program it would be snowing. We'd go home and mom would always have LOTS of candies, cookies and nut breads out, and we ate until we just about popped ... then off to bed we went. Of course, we always opened our presents on Christmas morning.

*Wishing Memorable
Holidays To You & Yours!!*





Playing cards at Christmas, 1958 at the Carlson's - (L-R) Jim and Karen Loso, Dale and Max Bratton. You can see Ragnar's head over Max's shoulder.



Christmas In Seattle

The Christmas of 1964 was special as it was our first year in Seattle after moving from Illinois. Jim had a job waiting for him at Westside Ford. We drove out with our Edsel and a U-Haul trailer. The boys and I saw the mountains and the ocean for the first time.

--Karen Loso

Below: Jim and Karen Loso and their boys, Kevin and Derek enjoy reading "The Night Before Christmas."

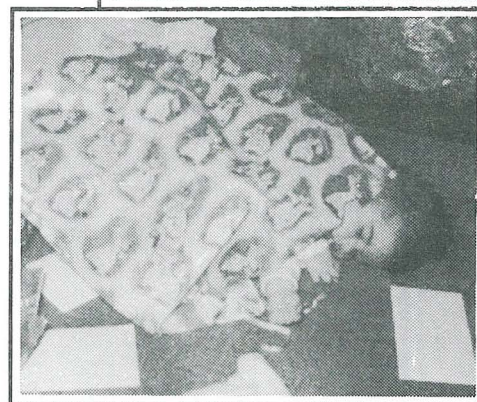
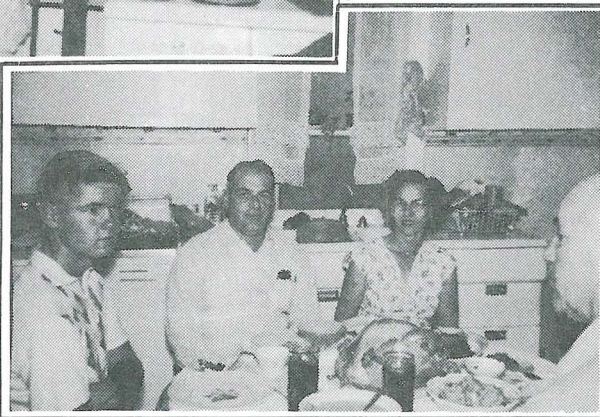
No Place Like Home For The Holidays!

I have had many happy Christmas memories. The best was in 1955 when my brother, Estel and his wife, Myla moved to Colorado to be near me. My son Glenn had enlisted in the Coast Guard, following his graduation from High school, and was sent to Alameda, California; and he got to come home for Christmas! We had a large old farm kitchen, but no dining room, so the five of us had Christmas dinner in my kitchen.

--Elizabeth Bratton Ruth



At left: Elizabeth Bratton Ruth preparing the feast. (Below) Glenn Ruth, Jr., Myla & Estel Bratton and Glenn Ruth, Sr., ready for dinner.



(At right:) "Merry Christmas, to Me!" Kim Shaver (Gaskin) in 1958, looks at herself in the mirror--one of her first Christmas presents. All the excitement must have tuckered her out, as you can see in the lower photo (in the Christmas wrappings).



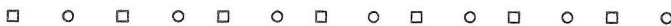


Charming Traditions

Our family has two traditions. When Sam and I were first married I made a big, colorful, felt banner decorated with various designs, and purchased a silver charm (wedding rings) to pin on it. Every year we decide on a silver charm denoting an important event of the past year. There are baby booties and a baby carriage for the years when Mike and Pat were born, many are charms from places we have taken trips (Disneyland, Seattle, a river boat when the reunion was in Iowa, a new car, a camper, graduation, etc.) Someday I might put them all on a charm bracelet or hang them on a miniature Christmas tree.

Our other tradition started when the boys were very little. I wanted them to learn the real meaning of Christmas—other than just receiving gifts. We light the Advent candles and read our special family service booklet and sing carols every Sunday night of Advent, which we continue to do every year. Some years family and friends have joined us for this evening of worship and fellowship.

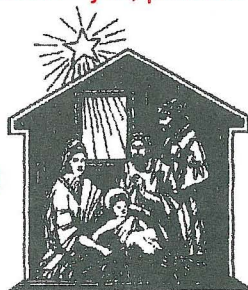
--Dorothy Bratton Naseem



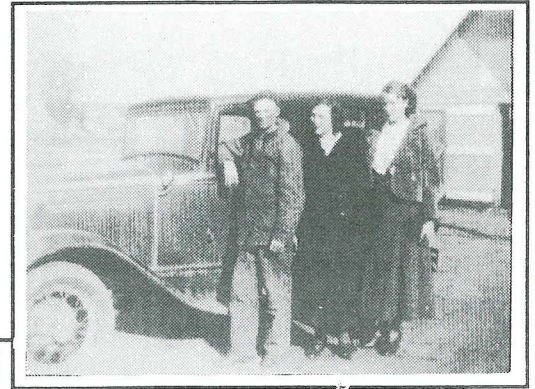
Perspective

--by Kay Wixom Tira

Popcorn, practices, programs and more,
Presents to wrap and people galore!
Candy and costumes and carols and cards...
Fabric to purchase and trim by the yards!
Balls and bulbs and boxes and bows,
Baking to do and nobody knows...
How much I'm forgetting,
What lists have I lost?
In the hurry and hubbub of counting the cost...
And then I remember to slow down—yes, pause...
His birth.
Oh, my Savior?
Yes, He is the cause.
So I stop for this moment,
Close my eyes in a nod
As He whispers "Be still—and
know I am God."



(At right)
George and
Minnie
(Bratton)
Gaylor and
niece, Dorothy
Bratton



(Below) Taken
in 1944—
Dorothy Bratton
(Martin) Jeffer's
children: Earl,
Iris, Pat and
Viola Martin.



The Year of the Matching Sweaters

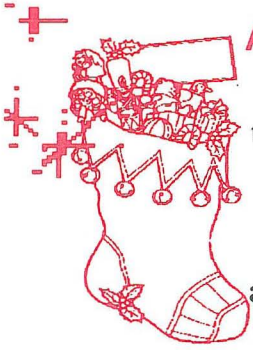
The Christmas of 1972 (I believe) we drove back to Illinois (from California) and had Christmas with mom's and dad's families. Somehow, Carol Sue, Alfreda, my mother and I all got the SAME sweaters as gifts. We had each purchased the same sweater for each other. We laughed and laughed about that! It was our first Christmas with family—it was very special.

--Kim Shaver Gaskin



Bob and Maryann Bratton at their home
in Renton, WA—Christmas Eve 1974

A Stocking Full of Love



Being adopted, I learned very early in life that there was no "Santa Claus." But I remember my first Christmas with dad and mom (I think I was 7 or 8) when we went to Knoxville to see grandma and grandpa.

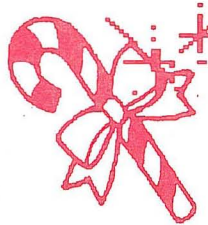
There was a stocking hanging for me, and all the goodies. Up until that point of time, I hadn't had anything like that. It was very special.

I guess as far as traditions go, we always went to the midnight Christmas Eve service at church. I remember a lady at our church in Helena, her name was Esther Bowden, who always stood up and played "O Holy Night" on the violin. It was so beautiful! That is my fondest memory of beauty, peace, joy and love of the Christmas season.

--Wanda Walton Poelman

Remembering a Special Lady

Growing up as the youngest of seven kids was sometimes difficult when it came to getting personal attention from mom or dad, especially during Christmas.



At this time of year, the days were filled with excitement and of wondering when that package would arrive from far away. Always there would be a tin of popcorn or cookies, but it would be that special personalized gift from Aunt Mary that always got me excited. Somehow, she would always remember us at Christmas and rarely did she miss my birthday by sending a special note or card. Family get-togethers, being few and far between, again brought beautiful memories of that extra special lady called Aunt Mary.

She would always take time to spend with us kids, playing and talking. I distinctly remember those genuine questions and her soft voice, knowing that she was truly interested in ME. I remember my mother's eyes glistening with excitement whenever she would talk about her brother, Bob, and her sister, Mary. What a precious time those family reunions brought. As I was grown, I always knew that Mary's home was always open to me and my family for Thanksgiving—or whatever the occasion. Visiting with her again brought those soft, genuine questions and her sincere care.

A precious time is here again for a wonderful reunion, as her family, gone on before, is welcoming Mary home with open arms. The angels are rejoicing, and Aunt Mary goes home to be with Jesus. A lady that truly gives of herself shall always be remembered.

--Don Wixom

In Memory ...

Too Well Loved To Be Forgotten



Mary L. Heimbigner
1920-1993

It is with sad hearts that we must mention the parting of our dear aunt, Mary Bratton Heimbigner.

Mary passed away on Saturday, November 27, in Renton, Washington. She had been suffering from cancer and breathing disorders.

She leaves behind a husband, R.E. "Duke" Heimbigner, a sister-in-law, Maryan Bratton, and many "neplings" and cousins ... all who loved her very deeply. We were so glad Mary and Duke were able to attend the 1993 reunion in Wisconsin, and will always remember the many happy times we've had with them.

There is never a good time to part—especially during the holiday season, and we shall especially miss Mary this Christmas. Those who knew and loved her will never forget her soft-spoken ways and her warm, caring, sharing personality.

Mary was the last surviving child of William Edward and Beulah Resor Bratton.

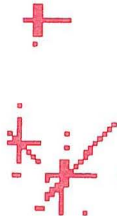
Mary truly loved the Lord, and we know that she and her immediate family members are now having a reunion in heaven.



A Little Boy's Letter To Santa

This poem was found in a 1984 *Bratton Researcher*. We do not know when it was penned, but it was written by J.W. Bratton for his grandson, Hamilton Bratton. (No direct line that I can find.)

I want a gun,
one that will shoot;
I want a horn,
one that will toot;
I want some cheese,
I want a harp;
I want a knife,
I want it sharp;
I want some candy
both red and white;
I would like to have
a nice little kite.



Where wild flowers invite
fragrant smell.
In some sunny land where
fairies roam
Somewhere you have a
beautiful home.
Perhaps in some far off shady
Sylvan dell
Where wild flowers invite
fragrant smell.

But I told you what I want
and I want them bad.
If you will bring them
I will be so glad.
I will be a "dood" -boy
when my gun I shoot,
I will be a "dood" boy
when my horn I toot,
I will be a "dood" boy
when I play my harp.
I will be a "dood" boy if
my knife is sharp.
I will be a "dood" boy
when I eat my cheese,
So then bring them, Santa,
bring me all of them, please.

P.S. If there is anything in this
order that a little boy ought not have,
don't bring it. That's all.

Come at Trismas ... Hammie



I know you will come,
you never fail.
You stop not for snow,
wind or hail;
Your little stick horse will
run over the house
And scare from its hiding
the little gray mouse
That is hungry and waiting to
take my cheese,
So box them up Santa,
box them up please.

So as a phantom down the
chimney you slide
To make all good little
children glad.
Then up again at a single bound
In a second more you are on
the ground.
Then away, away over
fields of snow,
To visit the homes of the high
and the low.
The course is onward and
onward still
'Til the last little stocking
in the land you fill.

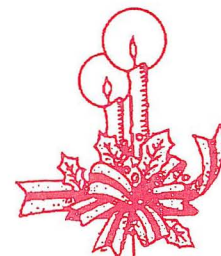
Then away to your own home
But where that is unknown.
Perhaps in some distant shady
nook
Close by the side of a babbling
brook,
Perhaps in some far off shady
Sylvan dell

A Strange Christmas Tree Decoration

We are lucky enough to be living in the beautiful Rocky Mountains with National forest areas all around us. People here are allowed to go into the forest and cut their own Christmas trees—which we have done almost every year, unless it was too cold. One year we selected a particularly full tree with thick branches, and as always, thought it was the most beautiful tree we had ever had. After Christmas season was over and we took down the tree, I did an especially thorough search to make sure I had removed all the very small ornaments. To my surprise, there in the thick inside branches was a little, long dead field mouse neatly draped over the limb. It apparently had been frozen solid like a rock the previous year, so it didn't thaw out in our warm house. I had mistaken it for a knot on the tree, but we still laugh about the year we had a mouse in our Christmas tree.

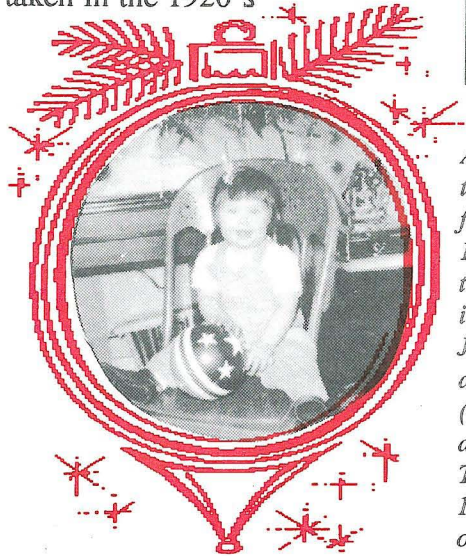


--Dorothy Bratton Naseem





Snow ... I'm sure snow can bring many memories to mind, but somehow this pretty flakey stuff reminds most of us of Christmas. At the right is a picture of three of the Charle's Bratton boys, hauling in their wood for the winter. This was taken in the 1920's



At left: Your's truly—Ruthie's first Christmas, 1952. (I was told to put this in!) and Below: Jami, Jason, and Jordan Tira, (children of Joe and Kay Wixom Tira) Christmas, 1983, in the outfits made by their grandma,

Esther Bratton Wixom, just a month prior to her death.



The Setting Made it Memorable

My grandparents didn't have a lot of money during the depression years, but I remember after we opened our gifts on Christmas morning that we always went to grandma's house for dinner. Grandma (Myrtle) always set the most beautiful table with table cloth, water goblets, butter dishes, fancy plates and silverware. I'll always remember how pretty her table always was.

--Shirley Haigh Thomas

Walter and Myrtle Bratton with daughter, Leila (Bratton) Haigh, and granddaughters, Shirley (Thomas) and Virginia (Knudsen). This was taken in front of Walter's home in Des Moines, IA, about 1925.



1995 Reunion Update...

Timber Lodge has been agreed upon by our committee for the setting of the 1995 Bratton Reunion. Timber lodge is nestled among pine trees, beside a mountain stream in the foothills below Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs, CO. The hosts are holding the dates for

the weekend before July 4, 1995, for our group. (A copy of the brochure is enclosed in this newsletter.) Reservations must be made no later than November, 1994. A deposit or credit card guarantee are required on all reservations. Timber Lodge has 25 individual rustic exterior cabins, with

modern interiors. The Garden of the Gods R.V. Park is just across the road for those who will be bringing R.V's. If you have questions, or need further information, please contact Keith Bratton (209) 389-4337 or any of the committee (who were listed in the last



Christmas 1944 at Ellensburg, WA. (L-R) Ed & Beulah Bratton, Bob "Boke" Sharples, Mary Bratton, Albert Palmer, Esther Bratton, Maryan & Bob Bratton, Mrs. Sharples, Pete Sharples, and in front, Blanche, Alfreda & Ragnar Carlson. (Nellie was taking the photo.)

A Holiday Reunion

The Christmas of 1944 was all together different for me. It was my first time away from my parents; and it was Alfreda's first Christmas—she was just learning to walk.

We went to Washington where Ragnar was going to work at the atomic bomb place [Hanford, Washington]. It was also the first time I'd ever gone west or seen mountains.

We got into Ellensburg and stopped at a filling station. We weren't sure exactly where they lived, but I guess Ragnar had their phone number, and called them. Bob asked where we were and told us to just stay there and he'd meet us. Pretty soon he pulled in to the filling station, and it was one big glorious reunion!

I hadn't seen Ed and Beulah for years, and it was good to see and be with them. It was good to see the Sharples (friends of ours from back home), too.

We stayed with the Brattons for about a week, I guess, until we found an apartment near Hanford. It was a very special Christmas for all of us.

--Nellie Loso Carlson

Alice Bratton Miller says her happiest Christmas was when she got a doll. Her sisters, Ethel (Rassi) and Annie (Hiltan) got one, too. That summer they got a big rain and their orchard flooded. Alice and Annie decided to teach their dolls to swim and took Ethels along, too. Annie says "That was the end of the dolls, and Ethel will never let us forget it, either, as they were the only dolls we ever got."

Wrapped Up with Curiosity

One Christmas, when we lived in Idaho Falls, Idaho, one of my brothers or sisters (I can't remember which one) found where dad and mom had been hiding the Christmas presents. Unanimously, we decided to carefully unwrap each gift to see what it was, and then planned to gingerly rewrap each gift as it was found.

For some reason that Christmas wasn't as exciting for me, as I knew what was in each box before we opened them on Christmas morning. (Jeannie says she doesn't have any remorse—ha!) I'm sure that Mom knew (as mothers always do) that we had unwrapped the gifts and peeked,

But did we did somewhat the same thing when we lived in Twin Falls a few years later. We found all the gifts in the fire-place wood box. This time, however, mom didn't wrap them

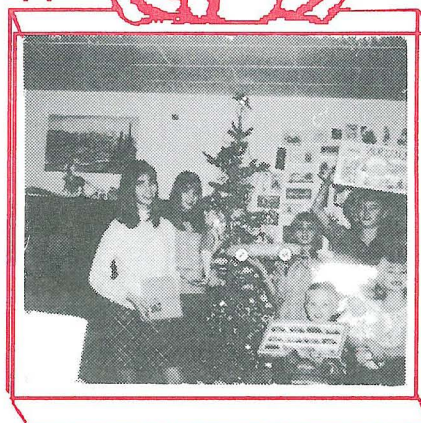
ahead of time and we had to decide which gift was who's. It must be the suspense that only *Christmas* can bring ...

We also remember that the first gifts we always opened were those from our Aunt Mary. She always chose a special gift for us (after all, she asked mom for a list and usually got what we put on it!) We also remember receiving dollar bills, rolled and tied with a red ribbon, and hung on the tree, from our Aunt Mary, which was very special.

The seven of us had lots of special times together that we'll never forget.



There are no riches above a
sound body,
and no joy above the joy of the
heart.



Christmas, 1969, L-R from back: Kay, Barbara, Jeannie, Ruthie (in back), David Mary, & Don, (in front).

Our Grandparent's Toys

Before the days of television, video games or boom boxes, our ancestors entertained themselves by making games and toys out of available items. A lack of creativity was the only barrier in what they could dream up. Following are some items our grandparents and great grandparents played with:

Button on a String:

Put a string (about 36" long) through the eyes of a button (crosswise) and tie the ends together to form a loop with the button in the center. Put your thumbs in the ends and turn it round and round until it is wound up. Move your thumbs in and out to make it spin.

Bubble Blower:

Find an old sewing-thread spool

[they used to be made of wood] and some soap. Make a lather with the soap in some water. Dip the end of the spool in the lather and blow through the other end to make bubbles.

Walkin' Crutches or

J-Walkers:

Some called these toys stilts. You get some forked sticks from the woods. Keep your feet in those forks and walk in them. The contest used to be how high a person could get. The stilts were often used to wade up the creek beds.

Tops or Dancers:

Home made tops usually consisted of a spinner. Whittle a [wooden] spool to a sharp point, plug the hole with a round peg. Slope the peg to a sharp point.

Use your fingers to spin it on the floor.

Hollow

Whistles:

Find a slick, pretty willow along a creek bank and cut it off as long as you want it. Make a notch to blow through and put a piece of wood back in the end to plug it. Some even learned to make little songs on these.

Stick Horses:

Find an old broomstick, or a stick of any kind, tie a string on it for a bridle, straddle the stick and lope! That's the kind of playing our ancestors did.

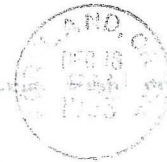
—Some of these ideas were abstracted from *Foxfire 6*, c. 1980, Anchor Press



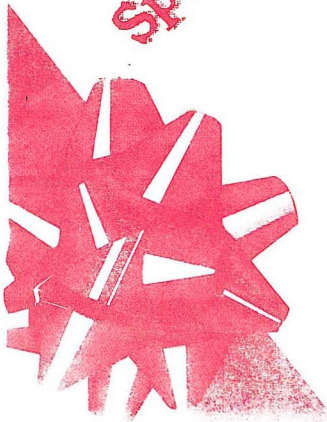
The Bratton Bulletin

Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction requested



Special Edition

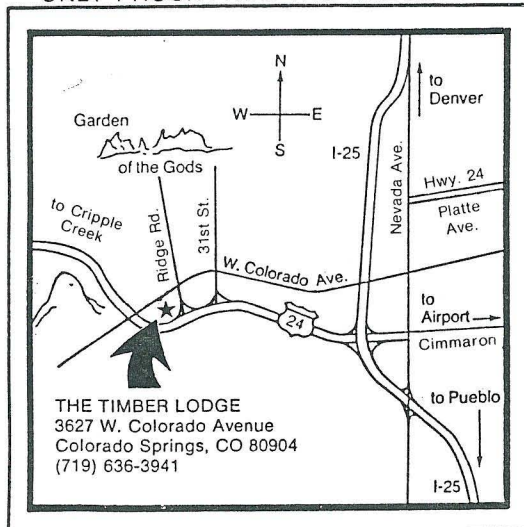


AREA ATTRACTIONS

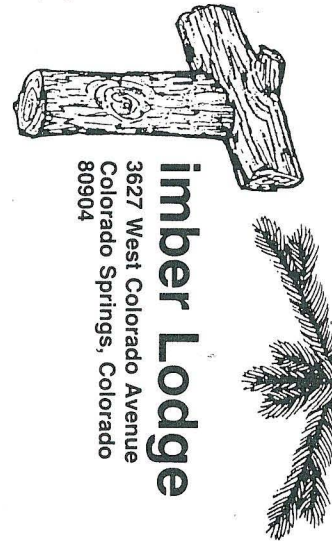
The area surrounding Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs is noted for its incredible scenic attractions and points of interest.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE ACADEMY | <input type="checkbox"/> MIRAMONT CASTLE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANTIQUE SHOPPING | <input type="checkbox"/> NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUCKSKIN JOE'S | <input type="checkbox"/> NORTH CHEYENNE CANYON PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUFFALO BILL WAX MUSEUM | <input type="checkbox"/> NORTH POLE SANTA'S WORKSHOP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAMPING AND HIKING | <input type="checkbox"/> OLD COLORADO CITY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAVE OF THE WINDS AND LASER CANYON | <input type="checkbox"/> OLYMPIC TRAINING CENTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHEYENNE MTN. ZOO | <input type="checkbox"/> PIKES PEAK HIGHWAY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CLIFF DWELLINGS MUSEUM | <input type="checkbox"/> PIKE NATIONAL FOREST |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CRIPPLE CREEK | <input type="checkbox"/> PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DENVER (1 HOUR) | <input type="checkbox"/> PIONEER MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT & NIGHTLIFE | <input type="checkbox"/> PRO RODEO HALL OF FAME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FISHING | <input type="checkbox"/> ROYAL GORGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS | <input type="checkbox"/> SEVEN FALLS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLYING W RANCH | <input type="checkbox"/> VAN BRIGGLE ART POTTERY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GARDEN OF THE GODS | <input type="checkbox"/> WESTERN MUSEUM OF MINING AND INDUSTRY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOLF/MINIATURE GOLF | <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE WATER RIVER RAFTING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GHOST TOWN | <input type="checkbox"/> WILL ROGERS SHRINE OF THE SUN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HALL OF THE PRESIDENTS WAX MUSEUM | <input type="checkbox"/> WATER SLIDES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC MANITOU SPRINGS | <input type="checkbox"/> WHITEHOUSE RANCH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HORSEBACK RIDING | <input type="checkbox"/> AND MUCH MORE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IRON SPRINGS CHATEAU MELODRAMA | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MINERAL SPRINGS AND BATHS | |

BEGINNING OCT. 1, 1991--LEGALIZED LIMITED STAKES GAMBLING IN CRIPPLE CREEK ONLY 1 HOUR FROM THE TIMBER LODGE



Bratton 43

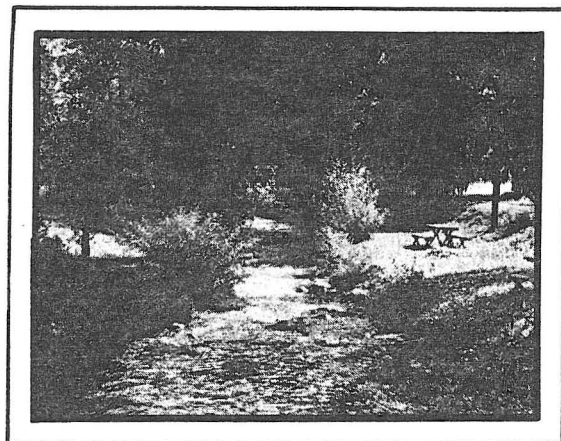


Timber Lodge
3627 West Colorado Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado
80904

**Colorado Springs
Colorado**

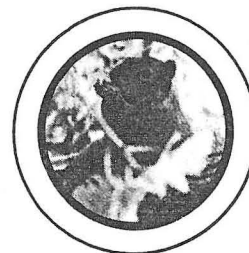


**Nestled Among
Pine Trees
Beside A Mountain Stream
In The Foothills
Below Pikes Peak**



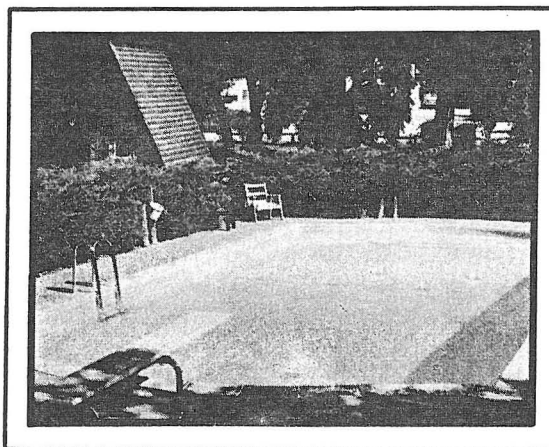
Bratton 44

The Timber Lodge proudly offers 25 individually decorated rooms with rustic exteriors and modern interiors. All cabins have heating, air conditioning, direct dial phones and cable color TV.



We also offer:

- Heated Swimming Pool (During Summer Season)
- Courtesy Coffee
- Large Family Units
- Playground Area
- Scenic Open Spaces
- Fountain Creek
- 11 Fully Equipped Kitchenettes
- 2 Fully Equipped Full Kitchens
- Separate and Duplex Cabins
- Knotty Pine Interiors
- Picnic and BBQ Areas
- Close to Area Attractions
- Close to Restaurants and Specialty Shops
- Daily Maid Service
- Quiet, Relaxed Atmosphere



The Timber Lodge is dedicated to friendly, efficient service in a unique and truly Colorado environment.

We welcome you to the beautiful Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs area.

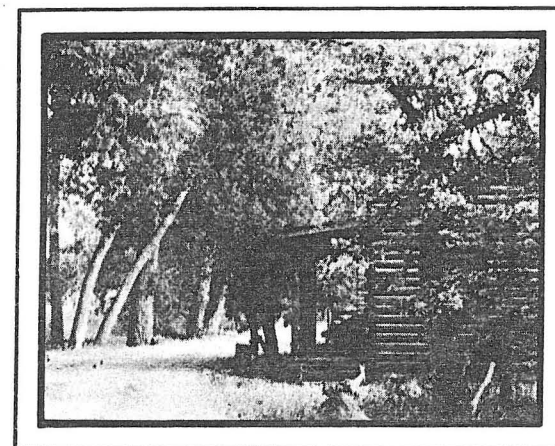
Enjoy your vacation!

Your Hosts,
John and Cindy Hooton

For reservations and further information, please call or write us:

THE TIMBER LODGE
3627 W. Colorado Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
(719) 636-3941

Information and Reservation
Line 1-800-448-6762



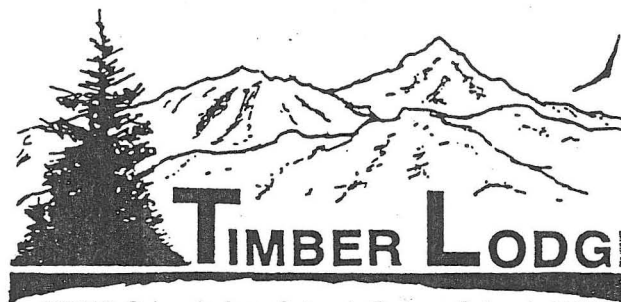
We will be happy to assist you with any of the following:

- Attraction and tour planning
- Area maps and directions
- Reservations made for:
 - Pikes Peak Cog Railroad
 - River Rafting
 - Horseback Riding
 - Flying "W" Ranch Dinner/Show
- Family reunions are our specialty (3-night minimum stay)
- Pavillion available for large groups
- Reduced rates October through April
- We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, and Diner's Club

RESERVATION INFORMATION

- Please call (719) 636-3941 or (800) 448-6762 for reservations or further information. Office hours 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
- When making your reservation please tell us the arrival date and departure date, total number of people (adults and children), kitchenette or non-kitchenette, and if there is a need for a roll-a-way or a crib.
- All reservations require a guarantee of either a check or money order for the amount of one night's stay to be received within 10 days of making your reservation or a major credit card number and expiration date given at the time that the reservation is made.
- Reservation cancellations must be made seven days prior to the reservation date in order for you to receive a refund or to avoid a one night charge on your credit card.
- Check-in time: We guarantee that your cabin will be ready by 2:00 p.m. Office hours 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. If you will be arriving after 9:00 p.m. please make special arrangements with us for a "late check-in."
- Check-out time 10:00 a.m.
- Full payment or an open credit card sales draft are required at check-in. We accept cash, traveler's checks, VISA, MasterCard, Discover Card, American Express and Diner's Club. Sorry, no personal checks. (Personal checks accepted for mail-in deposits only.)
- Sorry, no pets

Thank You — The Timber Lodge



3627 W. Colorado Ave., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904

(719) 636-3941

Reservations and Information Line

1-800-448-6762

Office Hours

8:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

1994 Summer Rates

May 13 - September 11

| SEPARATE CABINS WITH FULL KITCHENS | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|--------|-------|
| # | ROOMS | BEDS | SLEEPS | PRICE |
| #14 | 2 Bdrm 1 Lv Rm | 1 Dbl/1 Dbl 1 HAB | 4-6* | 94.00 |
| #18 | 2 Bdrm 1 Lv Rm | 1 Qn/1 Dbl 1 HAB | 4-6* | 94.00 |
| SEPARATE CABINS WITH KITCHENETTES | | | | |
| #6.7 | 1 Bdrm 1 Lv Rm | 2 Dbl 1 HAB | 4-6 | 82.00 |
| #11 | 1 Bdrm 1 Lv Rm | 1 Qn/1 Dbl 1 HAB | 4-6 | 82.00 |
| #9 | 1 Bdrm 1 Lv Rm | 1 Qn 1 HAB | 2-4 | 73.00 |
| #1 | 1 Bdrm 1 Lv Rm | 1 Dbl 1 HAB | 2-4 | 68.00 |
| DUPLEX CABINS WITH KITCHENETTES | | | | |
| #30.31 | 1 Room | 1 Qn/1 HAB | 2-4 | 62.00 |
| #32.33.34.35 | 1 Room | 2 Dbl | 4* | 62.00 |
| DUPLEX CABINS WITHOUT KITCHENETTES | | | | |
| #21.22 (creekside) | 1 Room | 2 Dbl | 4 | 55.00 |
| #19.20 (creekside) | 1 Room | 1 Qn | 2* | 51.00 |
| #24.25 | 1 Room | 1 Qn | 2* | 49.00 |
| #2.3 | 1 Room | 1 Qn | 2 | 49.00 |
| SMALL A-FRAME CABINS (size approx. 10 ft. x 13 ft.) | | | | |
| #4 (small) | 1 Bdrm | 1 Dbl | 2 | 45.00 |
| #16.23 (very small) | 1 Room | 1 Dbl | 2 | 41.00 |
| #26 (tiny) | 1 Room | 1 Dbl | 2 | 39.00 |

Cabins #1,9,30,31,32,33,34,35, 2 Night Minimum

Cabins #6,7,11,14,18, 3 Night Minimum

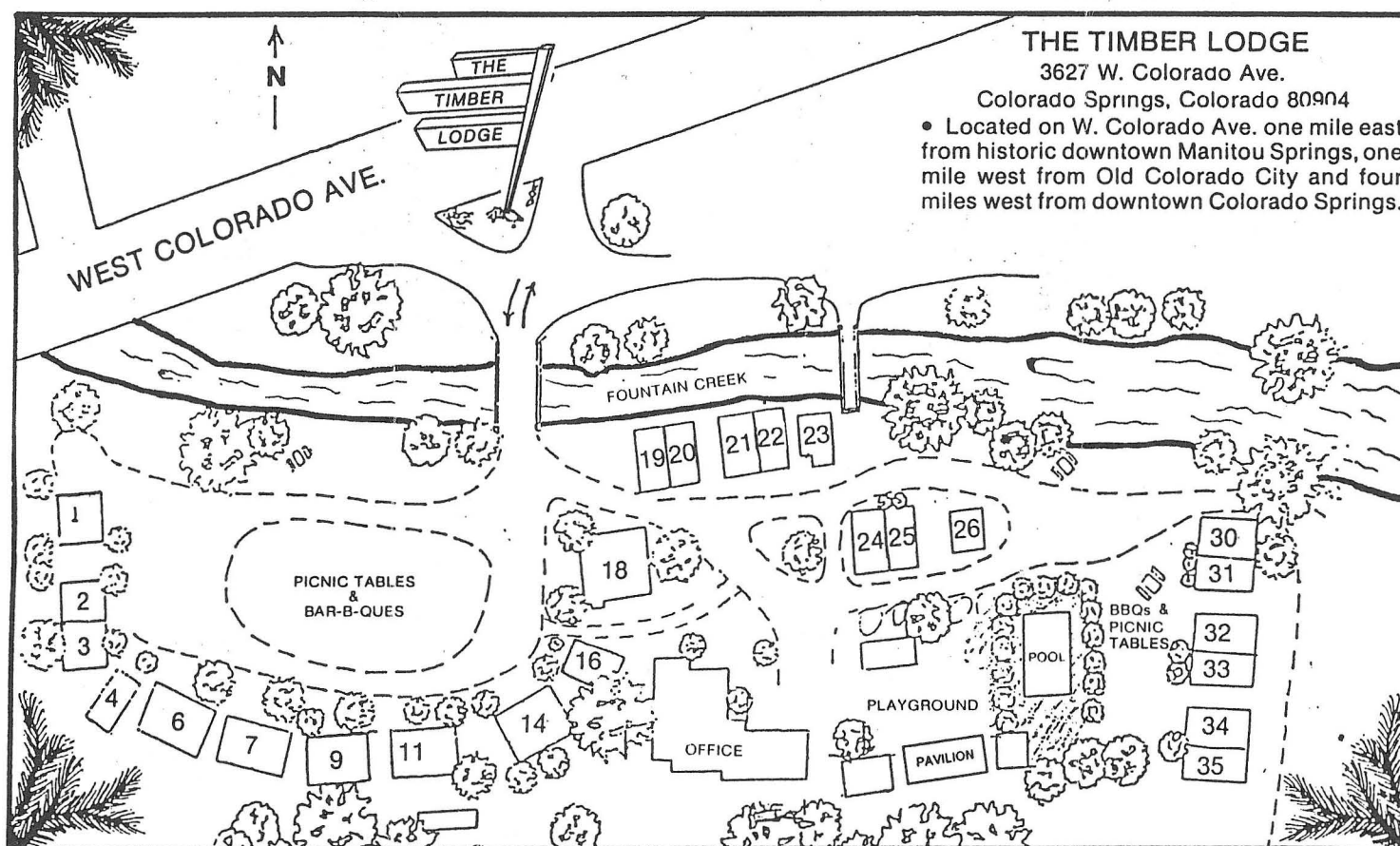
*Denotes a floor mattress may be added at a \$5.00 charge per night.

Baby port-a-cribs--no charge.

Dbl-Double Bed / Qn-Queen Bed / HAB-sofa Hide-A-Bed
Bdrm-Bedroom / Lv Rm-Living Room

Deposit or credit card guarantee required on all reservations.
All prices subject to change.

*Friendly, efficient service in a unique
and truly Colorado environment.*



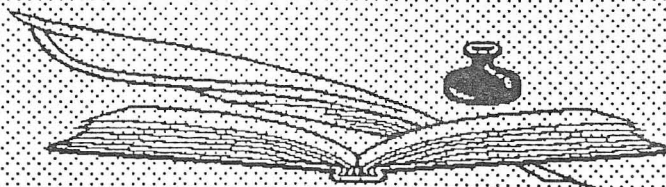
THE TIMBER LODGE

3627 W. Colorado Ave.

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904

- Located on W. Colorado Ave. one mile east from historic downtown Manitou Springs, one mile west from Old Colorado City and four miles west from downtown Colorado Springs.

- Kitchenettes are stocked with dishes, cutlery, utensils, pots and pans, toaster, coffee maker, towels and dish soap.
- Cabins #1,6,7,9,11,30,31,32,33,34,35 are equipped with a two-burner electrical stove, sink and small refrigerator (no oven).
- Cabins #14 and #18 are equipped with a four burner electric stove with an oven and an apartment size refrigerator.
- Cabins #1,6,7 have covered decks with picnic tables for an eating area during the summer and indoor dinette sets October through April.
- All Cabins have pine paneling, wall-to-wall carpet, heaters, air conditioning, cable color TV and direct-dial phones.
- Cabins #6,11,14,30,31,32,33,34,35 have bathrooms with tubs and showers. All other cabins have bathrooms with shower stalls. Cabin #7 and #18 have two bathrooms, each with a shower stall. Cabin #9 has two bathrooms, one with a tub and shower and one with a shower stall.
- Daily maid service includes fresh towels, beds made, carpets vacuumed, trash cans emptied, soap and toilet paper restocked.
- Bar-b-ques and picnic tables are located throughout the property for your convenience.



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol. 2, Issue 4

April - June 1993

Philip Bratton—Entrepreneur

Born in the winter of 1881, Philip Allen Bratton was the son of Charles Edward and Ida Mamie (Coonrod) Bratton. His mother, the daughter of Philip and Sarah Emeline (Hardin) Coonrod.

Mamie passed away only a few days after giving premature birth to Philip, and he went to live with his maternal grandparents. The Coonrod property, consisting of about 80 acres, was not far from the Charles Bratton property near Oakville, Iowa. According to an 1897 map, the property sat close to the school house in School District #1.

As there were no other young children in the home, Philip often visited his step brothers and sisters until he became about 17 years old. He was encouraged to get a good education, and attended Muskogee, Oklahoma, Teachers' College.

Philip was not only a good worker, but quite an entrepreneur. He tried his hand at

photography, was assistant at the Oakville post office, a store clerk, and later ran his own cleaning business.



Philip, taken at their home in Oakville, July 27, 1941.

On September 1, 1915, in Dallas, Texas, Philip was married to Emma Rosetta Shaw. They later made their home in the Oakville, Iowa, area until 1945.

Philip and Emma became parents to two children:

Mildred Lucinda, born in Burlington, Iowa, on September 6, 1921, and Philip John, born in Dallas, Texas on December 31, 1922.

In October, 1945, Philip and Emma went to California, to be closer to their daughter, who had married and was residing near Los Angeles. Mildred had a baby girl, Sandra, born in May of that year.

Philip, Jr., was in the Army, stationed in Japan. He had been inducted into the U.S. Army, 113th Cavalry, in 1941.

In 1946, after Philip, Jr., returned home, the father and son joined forces and announced a new firm—Phil & Phil Cleaners, located at 2380 W. Whittier Blvd, Whittier, California. Philip

jokingly stated, in a letter to friends back in Iowa, that he was "getting used to California and its weather." And stated further that he "went to a picnic and wore a sweater while he noticed others that just had on a bathing suit, so concluded that he was not entirely used to the country."

The business lasted several years, but was closed when Philip, Jr. moved to Colorado and married his second wife, Ilean Halbrook (about 1952). They had a son, James, born June 26, 1953 in Pueblo, Colorado.

Philip then took over the management of a dance studio in Montebello— one of Mildred's three dance studios, and ran that until the time of his death. He died of a heart attack in Montebello, California, on September 14, 1961. Mildred and Philip were very close. Mildred says, "Dad and I talked to each other nearly the first thing every morning and the last thing every night."

Emma lived to be nearly 102 years old, dying only a few days before her birthday, in 1988.

Philip John died tragically in an airplane crash, during a snow storm in April, 1967, at the age of 44. He was the pilot of the chartered plane.

Mildred resides in Desert Hot Springs, California, where she is a very busy lady, and runs her own talent agency. ■

In this issue ■■■

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| News & Notes | Pg. 2 |
| Spotlight on Anna Hilten . . . | Pg. 3 |
| Your Family's Medical Tree . . | Pg. 4 |
| Mysterious Bratton Horse . . . | Pg. 5 |
| Names & Faces | Pg. 6 |
| Bits 'n Pieces. | Pg. 7 |
| Big Puzzle/Family Living. . . | Pg. 8 |

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

(Note: State names are abbreviated to save needed space.)

Ed & Bonnie (Loso) Wilson have a change of address: 43919 SE 143rd St., North Bend, WA 98045-9241.

* * *

Linda (Pantone) & Jeff Hynes are remodeling a house they purchased last May. Linda has received her license in Marriage and Child Therapy and is working with Hallgrove Children's home in the Pasadena, CA, area.

* * *

Robert Bratton (youngest son of Arthur and Naomi Bratton) and his wife, **Lois**, were killed in a head-on auto collision, caused by icy roads, on Sunday, February 21, in Burlington, IA. Our sympathies are extended to his sisters, **Elizabeth Ruth & Dorothy Jeffers**, and brothers, **Earl and Estel Bratton**, as well as Robert's children: **Greg, Stephen, Debra** and their families. The couple had nine grandchildren and two great grand-children.

* * *

Belated congratulations to newlyweds, **Cynthia Ann (Rassi) and John Rezba**, who were married on November 10, 1992. The wedding was held at Memphis, TN, where Cindy and John now reside.



* * *

Don and Lillian (Lehnert) Rassi moved into their new home in December, after living in a motor home all of last summer. (See photo page) "We still don't have all the trim up, siding on or steps poured, but it is slowly getting done," Lillian says. "We had quite a time building it, but it has been worth it. It seems to be more your own home when you do much of the work yourself."

* * *

Alice Bratton Miller continues to show some improvement following her stroke. Her right side is weak, but she is able to get around with a walker and use her right arm a little.

* * *

Nellie Carlson will be visiting her daughter, **Alfreda (Rulis)** and family May 6-19. She and Alfreda's in-laws will be traveling together on the train to Virginia. She also has an upcoming Caribbean Cruise planned. The 7-day cruise will start in San Juan. Busy lady!

* * *

Carrie Rulis will be joining her Spanish college

classmates and visit Quito, Ecuador, for three weeks. Each student will live with a native family for two weeks to learn more of their culture and become more fluent in speaking Spanish. Then the last week they will take a boat trip to see more of the country. Sounds exciting!

* * *

Don and Carol Sue (Carlson) Jones have started a new computer-oriented consulting business called Minerva Information Services. Good luck with this new venture!

* * *

The Bratton/Wixom Clan celebrated several birthdays with a "Birthday Bash" in Boring, OR, on March 13. 21 family members attended, with out of area guests including: **Mary & Duke Heimbigner** and **Maryann Bratton** of Renton, WA, **Don Wixom**, of Caldwell, ID, **Mary Stephens** and girls of Hunters, WA, and **Jami Tira**, of Deer Park, WA. We had our fill of pizza, and enjoyed not only games and conversation, but especially each other's company. Thanks go to **Vickey Drennen** and **Jeannie Wixom** for their hospitality!

* * *

James and Mary Stephens will be taking a new Associate Pastor position in Visalia, CA, in April. We wish them well in their new endeavor there.

* * *

Sandra MacKenzie-Cioppa traveled to North Carolina in March, where she took a ten-day course to update her medical training.

* * *

Dick & Shirley (Haigh) Thomas traveled from Iowa and spent the month of February in AZ, where they visited relatives in Safford, Mesa, and Tucson areas.

* * *

Keith and Babs Bratton also ventured to AZ, in March, to visit relatives. It wasn't the month to travel to AZ, though, for they got caught in the midst of the terrible snow storms in that area.

* * *

We have been notified of the upcoming wedding of **"K.D" Bratton** (Son of Keith and Babs Bratton) to **Frances Helton**, on Sunday, May 2, in Bakersfield, CA. We extend our best wishes to this couple!

* * *

Congratulations to **Kristie Bratton** (daughter of K.D. and Pam Bratton) on her graduation from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. She will graduate on Saturday, May 15, with a B.S. in Occupational Therapy. Kristie will intern at a Florida children's hospital for three months, for preliminary training, then intern for another three months before being licensed.

In the
Spotlight...

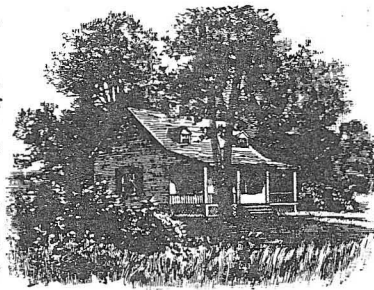
Anna
Elizabeth
Bratton
Hilten

--Interview submitted by Richard Lehnert

I was born on March 4, 1911, near Oakville, Iowa, to Elmer and Rachel (Bower) Bratton.

Mom and Dad were married in 1904 at Wapello, Iowa, but started their married life in Illinois, (my dad had been born at North Henderson Illinois) and my sister, Ethel, was born at Seaton, Illinois in 1908. The folks moved to a farm house east of Oakville in the spring of 1901. Dad farmed a few acres there, and worked out for other farmers clearing brush and trees to create more farm ground.

Much of the river bottom was overgrown with trees and the brush had to be cut, piled, and burned. The larger trees were "girdled"—a wide cut all the way around the trunk to make them die. They could then be farmed around without sapping the crop—or cut, the log and firewood saved, and limbs piled and burned.) If the tree was cut, then the stump had to be grubbed out, burned, if possible, or pulled to someplace out of the way. Sometimes dynamite was used to loosen the stumps and if all else failed, it was farmed around for several years until it would finally rot away.



Dad and Mom were always renters, and for most at that time, the first of March was moving day. (It usually was the worst day of the year, either extra cold or knee-deep in mud.) We usually stayed a few years in each place (sister Alice was born in the same house as was I, only a year and one-half later.) We moved north about two miles to another farm (where Dad spent most of his time grubbing out brush for the farm's owner) and I started school at the "Lone Star" school.

We soon moved to another farm, this time northwest of Elrick Junction to a place known locally as the "White Elephant" and it was mostly sand. The house was near the south bank of the Iowa River, and the ground lay south of the house to the bluffs. Dad raised some corn, mostly 'nubbin' size, a good crop of water-melon, and some cane which he made into sorghum (molasses). When we lived here, sister Ethel and I walked to the Fairview School, which was located on top of the bluff south of us and must have been four or five miles (each way) to walk.

Most of the area's one-room schools closed and consolidated in about 1920—we then rode a school bus into Oakville for a year.

We moved again in 1921 to a farm owned by Sam Hardin (who married our Aunt Alice - mother's sister) and the house was just inside the levee along the Mississippi river east of Oakville (about one mile south of where Uncle Charley

Bratton used to live in the early 1900's).

Alice and I attended Prairie Point School for the next few years (Alice and I were in the same class because Mother

held me back to take care of my younger sister.) By this time, sister

Ethel had quit school and was working out for room and board. She started working out when she was about twelve years old.

The first teacher I remember at Prairie Point was Minnie Johnson (1921-1922). She was so cross-eyed that no one knew who she was looking at. We probably behaved better because of it. Alice did finish the eighth grade at Prairie Point, but I didn't.

Dad worked away from home whenever he found a job. One year he was part of a construction crew building a road from New Boston, Illinois, to Aledo, Illinois. (*This is now Route #17, but I don't suppose it had a number then.*) He was a caretaker for the mules. A team of mules was hitched to a "slip" (a big iron scoop affair that the handler would tip while the mules pulled, until it filled with sand or gravel, then tilted to let it slide while the mules pulled it to the work site where it was dumped, then around again.) It was hard work for the man and took a lot of mules.

In 1925, Dad worked with a crew rebuilding the levee along



Continued on page 4



Elmer and Rachel Bratton (both on left), with Katie and Philip Bratton (both on right)

Anna Bratton Hilten—

Continued from page 3

the Mississippi River—he used one horse to drag big pipe—and stayed with the crew when they moved to a similar job in Missouri.

This left Mom and Alice and I to take care of things at home. Alice and I took care of the outside chores, mostly. Our house was located just inside the levee, but almost directly across from the north end of Huron Island. Our milk cows managed to wade the Huron Chute several times. (We usually knew where they were because we had a young sheep that wouldn't go in the water, but would run up and down the levee watching for the cattle.) Alice and I would take our clothes off, wade the chute (hoping that we didn't step in a hole) and drive them back across for milking. We usually held our clothes above our head, then dressed on each side.

At that time, Huron Island had a fair-sized settlement, but they all had to move out when the Lock & Dams were put on the River in the late 1930's.

This pretty well covers my childhood—a lot of work, a few good times, but no desire for the “good old days”. ■

Grandma's Gingham Apron

Grandma wore an apron to cover up her dress. It had two pockets in the front -- to put things in, I guess.

It carried fresh peas from the garden, clothespins to the line, Potatoes from the cellar, cucumbers from the vine.

Before the days of paper towels, it wiped a dough-caked hand. (Grandma's oatmeal-raisin cookies were the best in all the land.)

A corner of her apron could hold a pan too hot, wipe a grandchild's tear away, or clean up a dirty spot.

I wonder why more ladies don't wear aprons nowadays. They seem to be most handy tools in many different ways.

An apron's always good to use for one reason or another. This gingham apron really got it's use from the hands of a loving mother.

--1/93 by R. M.

Your Family's Medical Tree

What you learn could save your life.

There is another aspect of the family tree that you should not neglect—your family's medical history. Tracing your family's medical past may help you to enhance the lives not only of you and your children, but also of future generations.

The risk of developing any disorder depends on its cause. If it is a purely genetic disorder, your risk can be more accurately assessed than if the disorder is caused by the interaction between the environment and genetics. Other risk factors include how often the disorder shows up in the family, how genetically close you are to the affected relative, the severity of the disorder, and environmental and lifestyle factors such as diet, whether or not you smoke, and whether you have been exposed to hazardous substances.

But knowing which health problems your family has had in the

past, and keeping a record of all the medical information you find, will give your family some measure of control. Here's how:

- Talk to aunts, uncles, and cousins to find out the cause of death of any close relatives, such as parents, siblings, and grandparents. Also find out their age when they died -- in particular, whether they were younger than 55. (If, for example, cancer or heart disease developed at a comparatively young age, there is a greater risk of your developing the disorder.)

- Breast, skin, and colon cancer can run in families, although dietary and environmental factors also play a large role. Early pre-vention may be possible if family members are aware that they might need regular screenings for the disease.

- Genetic disorders can be passed on from parent to child. If you have genetic disorders such as Tay-Sachs, sickle-cell anemia, cystic fibrosis, and hemophilia in your family (or any other disorder that you are concerned about passing on to your children), you may want to consider seeking genetic counseling.

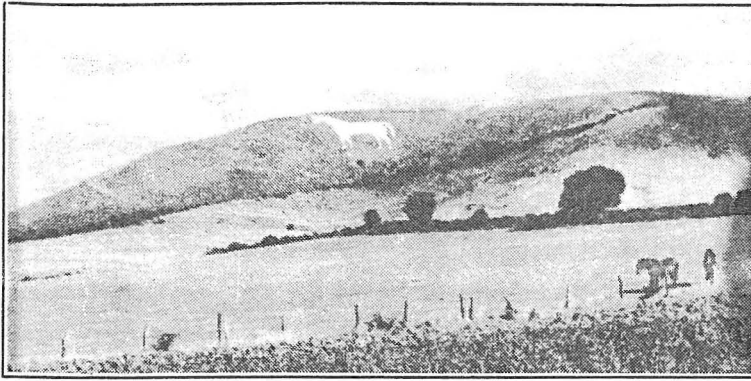
- Diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, high blood pressure, epilepsy, anemia, osteoporosis, obesity, and mental illness also run in families. Knowing that there's a history of diabetes or of premature heart disease in your family can help you work on preventive measures such as controlling body weight and limiting intake of fat, sugar, and cholesterol.

--Taken from *Parents Magazine*, ©1992. June, 1992 issue, page 186, “Tracing Family Roots.” Reprinted with the permission of author, Marilyn Mayo.

Answers to “Armchair Challenge” puzzle from last issue:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Relations/family | <u>Kin</u> |
| Wife of Uncle | <u>Aunt</u> |
| Invention by Bell | <u>Telephone</u> |
| Letters, etc. | <u>Mail</u> |
| Duplicate/copy | <u>Facsimile</u> |
| Orphan/foundling | <u>Waif</u> |
| Fellow/Chap | <u>Guy</u> |

Message:
Keeping in touch with family is fun!



*The
Bratton
Horse,
180 ft.
long,
carved
in the
chalk of
a hill.*

The Mysterious Bratton Horse

Several have asked about this horse and, whether or not it relates directly to our family, it is of interest to many people.

In the United Kingdom, three miles northeast of Westbury near Wiltshire, is the village of Bratton. It is located on a prominent ridge, though at the base of the lofty hills in its rear, in a tree-sheltered area. This village contains many 16th- and 17th-century houses, and a Baptist chapel of 1667.³

Above this village stands a great white horse—the oldest white horse in Wiltshire—one of the “Mysterious Sites of the World.”¹ This figure of a horse, nearly 180 ft. long, and an eye measuring 25 feet round², is carved on the side of a chalky hill near this village of Bratton. The chalky downs are well suited to carving out such figures and the local people still occasionally make smaller ones, as well as maintaining those made in earlier times.

The Bratton horse looks quite different from its predecessor of earlier days. Its fore-runner most likely resembled an elongated dachshund carrying a saddle and bearing a crescent moon over the tip of its tail—very similar to a horse cut in the hillside near Uffington Castle in Berkshire.

The Bratton horse was entirely restored in 1778. “There is still, however, the question of how such a large figure was composed with such accurate proportions.”¹

The Bratton horse is near the site of a Celtic camp later occupied by the Romans, Saxons and Danes and several battles were fought in the region. The original Bratton horse, according to popular tradition, was created

to commemorate the victory of Alfred the Great over the Danes in AD 878, and it is surprising that Alfred is not depicted astride his charger.”¹

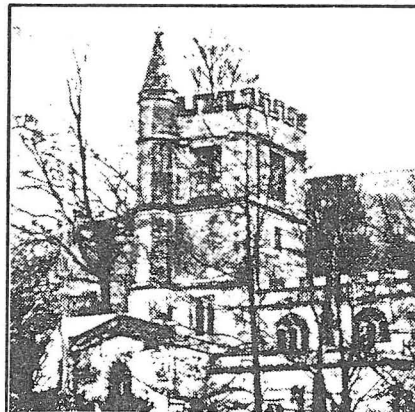
The Bratton Castle & Church

When the Danish troops retreated after Alfred's victory over them, they climbed the downs and took refuge behind the ramparts of the “Bratton Castle.” (The Castle had been besieged for fourteen days.)

The Bratton Castle, or camp, constructed some time between 300 BC and AD43, encloses an area of 25 acres and from the east has an elaborately fortified entrance. The views from this area are fantastic, and the Great White Horse is seen on its western slopes. The camp occupies a ‘most commanding position’, and from the steep and precipitous hills below it no place could have been better adapted for a fortress.”⁴

“If there were no camp and no white horse, Bratton would have grown into a place of pilgrimage, for its church is like no other. Standing on a hillside by itself, with a

Below: The Bratton Church (Photo of a Xerox copy received from England)



background of beautiful trees, it is reached by about 180 stone steps that go steeply down one hill before climbing up to the village shrine. It is one of the most charming small churches in the country.”² It stands apart from the village, separated by a deep dell.

The tower, built in the 15th century, has a ‘stair-turret’ and its aisles all have big gargoyles. “Inside the structure, arcades rest on clustered columns; the tower arches grouped in the centre are plain and dignified and carried on charming piers. The ceiling of the tower is vaulted and has carved floral bosses, and the kings and bishops sculptured on the corbels.”² Corbel angels decorate the north transept of the chancel, each one either playing musical instruments or carrying shields.

Some History behind the Bratton Village

A brass plate in the church records that Seton Bromwich purchased the Grange and farm of Bratton, and died in 1607. The village of Bratton continues to have a disused factory (formerly The Bratton Dairy Company) now being used for its business purposes. However, it used to have a flourishing cloth trade, with mills, and an apprentice to the art of weaving, as well as a large dairy business.

“A more ‘modern’ house is known as ‘The Yews’, a name derived from a unique avenue of trees in the rear. The trees being computed at 600 years. The occupant of the premises, Mr. Whitaker, belongs to a family which has been associated with Bratton for several hundred years. An ancestor of the present tenant conducted a school there for a period of sixty years. Among his pupils was an “urchin” who wilfully set the house on fire and burnt it to the ground. The wife of the school master was near her confinement, and had to be hastily removed to an adjoining cottage, where a child was born who lived to the age of 100 years and a few months.”⁴

Information was compiled from ‘The World's Last Mysteries’, “Mysterious Sites of the World”, © 1976, Reader's Digest France, used by permission. Other information was extracted from ‘The Cambridge Guide to Historic Places of Britain and Ireland’ © 1989, Cambridge University Press; and ‘Treasures of Britain—A Traveler's Guide to the Riches of Britain & Ireland, 4th Edition, published by WW. Norton & Co. Thanks also to the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural

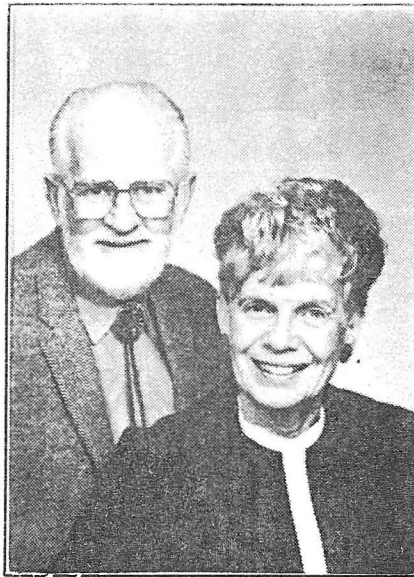
NAMES & FACES 1993

Recent family photos we've received to share with other Bratton families.

"Families are a work of heart."



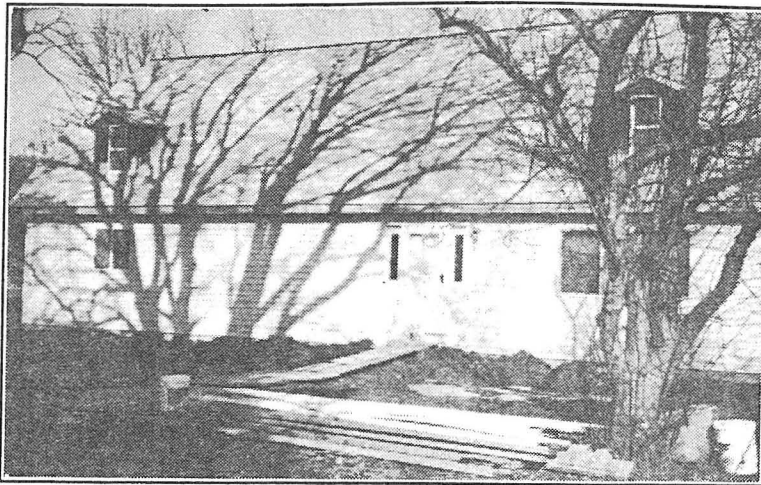
Suede Rebecca Wyatt
(Daughter of Becky Klein
Ryan, grand daughter of
Robert & Oneta Bratton Klein)



**Richard and Shirley (Haigh)
Thomas.** (Shirley is the daughter
of Leila Bratton Haigh, grand-
daughter of Walter Bratton.)



Tom Klein
(Son of Robert & Oneta Bratton
Klein)



*Newly built home of **Don and Lillian (Lehnert) Rassi** in
East Peoria, IL, showing the south side and main entrance.*

How about taking a family
photo at Easter time and
sending it to share with us???



John and Cindy (Rassi) Rezba
Cindy is the daughter of Don and
Lillian (Lehnert) Rassi.

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is YOUR column ... If you have any questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

QUESTIONS

If you could see your ancestors all standing in a row, would you be proud of them or not, or don't you really know? Now, here's another question from a different point of view.

If you could meet your ancestors. Would they be proud of you?

--Author unknown

C: The Bratton Bulletin has "really expanded my knowledge of the Bratton heritage. Thanks for all the hard work and talent it must take to research and produce the Bulletin ... I'd love to have copies of the back issues, if possible. I'm looking forward to sharing them with my daughter so she will learn her family origins."

* * *

Q: I'm curious. The clip art you used in the last issue really helped detail the story. Where did you get pieces that date back so well?

A: Thanks for noticing! Most of the line art was taken from an old Spanish book (dated 1886) that belonged to our grandmother, Beulah Resor Bratton. It may have been one of the books from which she taught.

* * *

Q: You may have been asked this before, but if our ancestors

Special thanks to those who made contributions to this issue—whether full articles or information for articles: Viola Herzman, Becky Ryan, Richard Lehnert, Lowell Kiger, and Nellie Carlson.

came from Ireland, how is it that there is so much Bratton information around England?

A: We know that Andrew and Samuel Bratton came from Ireland, but their family could have come from Great Britain prior to that. It's a question that's hard to answer, but here are a couple possible answers:

Possible explanation received from Nellie Carlson:

"I believe they did travel a lot back and forth way back then. Of course they used sailing vessels, but there were only about 78 miles between Dublin, Ireland and the point of Holy-head on the Wales coast; and between Belfast, Ireland, and the coast of Northern England or Scotland it was only 39 miles. The sea was fairly calm, and being adventurous, they were always looking for a better place to live. That's one reason they left their 'home-land' and came to America."

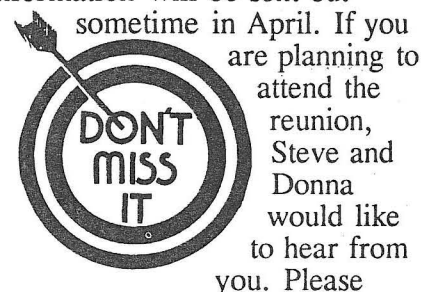
Jean Morrison, of the Cambridge [England] Family History Society says: "So far I have not been able to link [our Brattons] with the de Brattons who owned land and houses here in the 13, 14 and 15th Centuries. Half the population died in 1349 of the plague, known as the 'Black Death,' and the last of the surviving de Brattons sold up and went away shortly afterwards. If we could discover where they went, we might establish a link."

* * *

REUNION 1993...

Attention ...
Sign-up form enclosed!

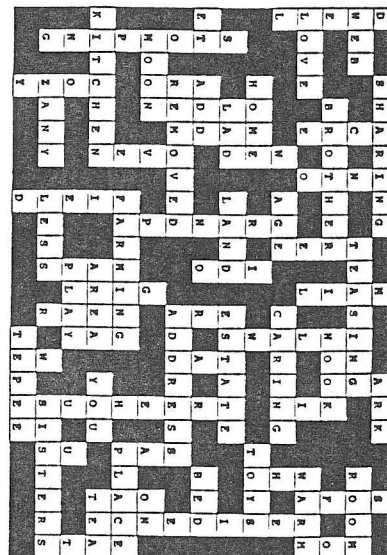
Donna and Steve Nachtrab have offered their place for our 1993 family reunion, to be held the weekend of July 3-4. They have two wooded acres of country land in Van Dyne, located between the cities of Fon Du Lac and OshKosh, Wisconsin. Some spaces will be available for campers or tents. Further information will be sent out



sometime in April. If you are planning to attend the reunion, Steve and Donna would like to hear from you. Please

send the enclosed form to:
Steve and Donna Nachtrab
W 8708 W. Lone Elm Rd.
Van Dyne, WI 54979
Phone: (414) 688-5251

1993 T-Shirts and hats
Several have asked about T-shirts and hats for the reunion again this year. We can make these available, but need a certain quantity to place an order. If you are interested in ordering, please note that on the form also.

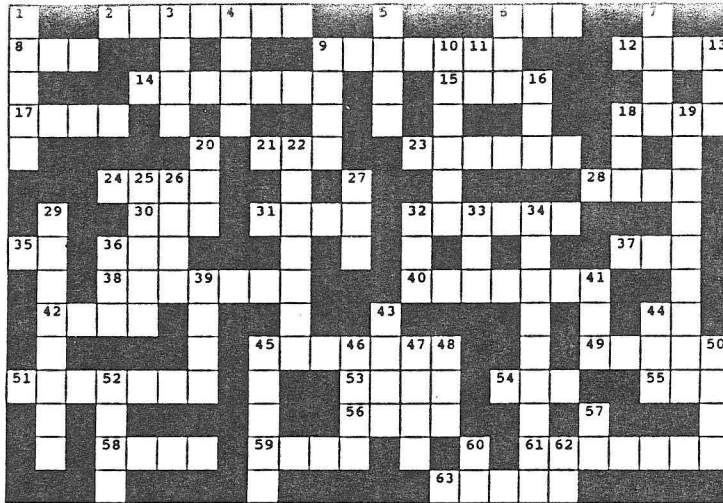


Answers to puzzle on page 8:



Big Puzzle Of Family Living

(You might want to work on this one as a family.)



ACROSS

2. Experience in common
6. Noah's temporary home
8. A spider's home
9. The usual past time of siblings
12. Some old houses only had one
14. Your mother's son
15. Small room in the house
17. Adore
18. Enkindle
21. Growing older
23. Looking after
24. Residence
28. Play things
30. Small boy
31. Earth
32. Property
35. This character phoned home
36. Enlarge
37. More than one often slept here
38. Relative—a different generation than yours—usually a cousin
40. Dwelling location
42. Home for "The man in the ____"
44. "Be ____ time for dinner!"
45. Country occupation
49. Site
51. Favorite room in the home
53. Quadrangle, space
54. Not me
55. "____ for two."
56. What kids do together
58. Nutty, clownish
59. Fewer, minor
61. Your Dad's daughters
63. Indian's home

DOWN

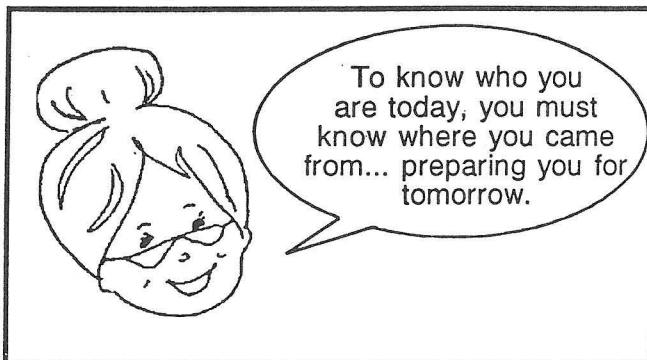
1. Abide
3. Land
4. Enter
5. Letters, notes, etc.
6. In the past
7. Couch, divan
9. A family chart
10. Your wife's family
11. ____ family is perfect
13. Household "engineer"
16. Family
18. Never heard or seen?
19. House or apartment
20. Marry
22. Dad's dad
25. In the ____ days
26. Short for madam
27. Intro to marriage (2 wd)
29. The "old ____ ground"
32. Period of time
33. Just a little
34. A home in the branches
36. Circa, near = ____ und
39. Grandma's cookies were fresh from the ____
41. Every family tree has at least one (pun or joke)
43. Doesn't usually pass on surname
44. A breakfast meal
45. Pasture
46. Items used to find directions
47. Not far away
48. Happy ("old" meaning)
50. Picnic fixin's (slang)
52. Comfortable
57. You and me
60. ____ are family
62. Such as, for example

The Bratton Bulletin

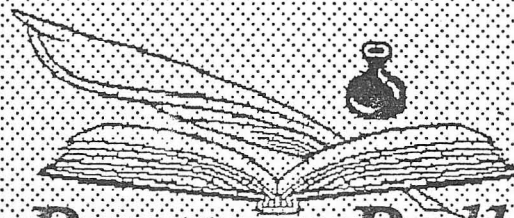
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & address correction requested

Granny B. says ...



When does your subscription expire? Check your label.



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol. 2, Issue 3

January - March 1993

Epoch of the C.E. Bratton Family

Charles Edward Bratton, the fifth child of Allen and Julia Bratton, was born September 21, 1857, near Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio.

When Charles was only five weeks old, the family moved to Rock Island County, Illinois, and later to Mercer County near New Boston, Illinois, where their farm was on the bank of the Mississippi River. Around 1867 the family moved to an area close to Kansas City, Missouri.

In 1880, Charles married Ida Mamie Coonrod. Mamie passed away, and was buried in the Dolbee Cemetery in the Oakville area, in January, 1882, just a few days after giving premature premature birth to a son, Philip Allen Bratton. The infant son went to live with his maternal grandparents, Sarah and Philip Coonrod, near the Bratton place in Oakville, Iowa.

On October 18, 1884, Charles married Carrie "Caddie" Louise Cabeen in Oquawka, Henderson County, Illinois. They set up house-keeping in a two-room house on the bank of the Mississippi river in Louisa County, Iowa.

Moving Soon Became Part of Their Life

Charlie, Cad and baby Eddie made a long trip by covered wagon to Nebraska in 1886. Charles filed on a claim there,

but could not stand the climate; so they sold the team and wagon and went back by rail in January 1887. They stayed with Allen and Julia on the "Sand Hill" until February, 1888, when they moved back to their home on the bank of the River.

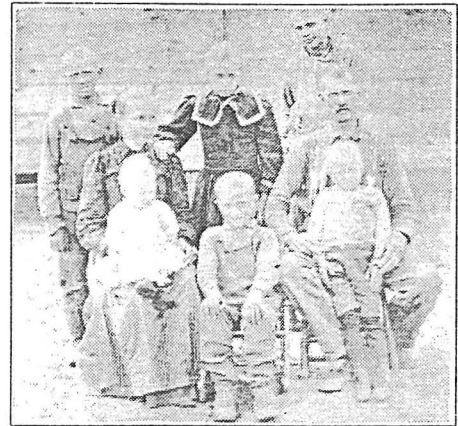
Their neighbors were Carrie's Uncle, Sam Hardin, who lived one-half mile south, and Charles's older sister Mattie, and her husband, Jim McCall, lived in a log house just one mile north (an area known as "Prairie Point").



Charles was a hard worker and did whatever he could to make a living and provide for his family. He cut cord wood, made ax handles, fished, hunted and farmed. When he would shoot ducks for market, Carrie would help in the evenings by reloading brass shells. Charles also built and kept boats, used to ferry farmers to Keithsburg to do trading.

High waters during the flood of 1892, forced Charles, Carrie, Ed and Clair to move to Keithsburg, Illinois. They lived there for seven years until (1899) the family out-grew their home. Charles built a new house inside the levee near Oakville, Iowa. Carrie's parents lived in a small house in the back of the Bratton place.

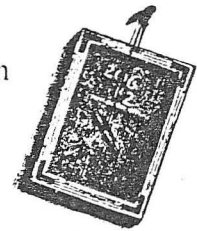
By 1901, the family consisted of William 'Edward', Clair Wilson, Nellie 'Kate', Lesley 'Erle', Frank 'Dale', Ernest Noble, and Max Clifford.



The Charles Bratton Family about 1900. (Max hadn't been born yet.)

School Time!

The older children were first taught in a log house where one of the uncles had lived. The district hired a teacher and each family having children, who attended, had to furnish a desk and seats. Charles made a desk for Clair and Katie and they took one chair and the stool part of a broken chair.



In Clair's notes he recalled the winter being cold and the snow deep. "We took the grippe [flu] about Xmas so that ended our schooling for the winter. We had no over shoes so we wrapped our feet with old carpet or gunny sacks, and tied them on with string."

The winter of 1904 and 1905, Kate, Clair and Erle went to school on Huron Island, where Beulah Resor taught the fall and winter term. [This is also where their church services were held.] The children

Continued on page 3

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

(Please note abbreviation on States, it becomes necessary in order to save space.)

Laurie Bluedorn and family worked very hard for several months on Civil War costumes, studies, and displays for a history exhibition in their area. It was held November 20. Every family in their home school division had a display. The show also presented Civil War reenactments. The Bluedorns were guests, arriving in costume, at a New Boston (IL) ball and tea in December to help create a Civil War era atmosphere.

* * *

Russell Wm. Grammer announces the birth of his brother, **Christopher Michael**, October 7, 1992, to parents **Russell** and **Jill R. (Rassi) Grammer** of East Peoria, IL. Maternal grandparents are **Donald** and **Lillian (Lehnert) Rassi** of East Peoria, great-grandparents **Richard** and **Jane Lehnert** of Oakville, IA and **Ethel (Bratton) Rassi**, Metamora, IL. Great-great grandmother is **Anna (Bratton) Hilten** of Oakville, IA.

* * *

Don and **Lillian Rassi** are building a new home in the same location of their old house (tearing down the old one, first) in East Peoria, IL.

* * *

Nellie (Loso) Carlson traveled quite a bit in August and September. Nellie fell down a two-foot embankment in Hayward, while on vacation, and sprained her ankle, but was able to amble in time for a trip to visit her granddaughter, **Carrie**, at Roanoke Lutheran College, in VA; and to Washington, DC, where she visited the Treasury Dept., and Jefferson Memorial.

* * *

Carol Sue (Carlson) Jones keeps very busy with her family, as well as substituting at Durand, IL, schools. After school hours on Mondays through Thursdays you would also find her in Beloit, WI, where she teaches Latin to fifth and sixth graders.

* * *

Dot Naseem reports that son, **Pat**, along with the orchestra and band group of Helena (MT) High School, are planning a big trip this Spring. The students will fly to Florida to compete in a music festival, and then stay over for a trip to Disney World and Epcot Center.

Speaking of trips ... **Zella Walton** had a wonderful trip to Hawaii, where she stayed for three weeks with Grady's brother and sister-in-law, in their time-share condo. She returned home on November 15th. Grady was well looked after by the Home Health Plan.

* * *

Pete & Pat Schebler traveled to Germany in October and had a great trip. Pete's ancestors (evidently on his father's side) were from the Steinfield Village area of Germany. Pete and Pat were able to do some sight-seeing, as well as visit with several relatives. *(See photo on insert pg.)*

* * *

Estel and **Myla Bratton** have moved back to their "old place." Please note their change of address: 1750 N. Decatur Blvd. #5, Las Vegas, NV 89708.

* * *

We have received a note that **Alice Bratton Miller** is paralyzed on her right side after suffering a stroke in December. At last report, she is taking treatments in Burlington (IA) Hospital.

* * *

Our sympathies are extended to **Howard Carstensen** (Anna Bratton McCannon line) who lost his wife, **Gladys** on December 4. She passed away in Davenport, IA, and was buried at Memorial Park on December 8.

* * *

Jim and **Karen Loso** are rebuilding their cabin by Cle Elum, WA, and plan to move into it when Jim retires. They hosted Thanksgiving in their home for the last time for all the family.

* * *

Keith & Babs Bratton have leased their ranch (in CA) for a year to have time for traveling and visiting. Babs has recovered from her chemo treatments and is feeling great.

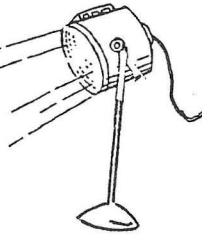
* * *

Maryan Bratton had very welcomed visitors at her home in Renton, WA, for the holidays: **Greg & Gail Bratton** and children, from Auburn, IN, and **Gary** and **Pat Bratton** from St. Petersburg, FL. They spent their time visiting, sight-seeing and skiing. They also traveled to Victoria, Canada, to do some sight-seeing.

* * *

Shirley and **Chris Coomer** (who live in nice, warm, AZ) played golf in shorts on New Year's day, what a treat! Shirley says "Unfortunately, the good weather didn't guarantee a good outcome for my golf game—UGH!" ■

In the Spotlight...



DON BRATTON

—Interviewed by Shirley Bratton Coomer

Ernest Don Bratton was born August 16, 1928, in New Boston, Illinois. He was born to Ernest Noble Bratton, and Florence Creasy Bratton. Don married Helen Virginia Zimmerman in Muscatine, Iowa, on March 27, 1949. Today, Don and Virginia live in Westfield, Wisconsin. They retired from dairy farming several years ago, but still live on the farm they bought 33 years ago.

Don has memories when he was seven or eight years old of his grandmother, Carrie Louise Cabeen Bratton. Don said, "Grandma and Uncle Clair used to come down to visit. They would stay for a month or so. Grandma had long hair which she usually braided. I remember combing her long hair."

When asked of other earlier memories, Don recalled when he was about seven or eight "...when Ragnar [Ragnar Carlson, husband of Nellie Carlson] came down to New Boston to hunt ducks. He brought me a pair of boots so I could go duck hunting for the first time." When asked if they had any luck, Don said, "Yes, I got one." Don had shot his first duck.

As a youngster, his chores included carrying wood, and feeding the calves and horses. He enjoyed being around machinery. When he was in the sixth grade, he built a motor scooter out of parts and

pieces he found on the farm. Without TV., he said he "drilled holes and nailed things." When asked what toys he played with, Don didn't remember too many toys ... but did recall playing with a wagon.

As he grew older, Don's love of hunting continued, and today both Don and Virginia still deer hunt in Wisconsin. As he grew older, his hobbies expanded to motor cycles and airplanes. He began flying when he was a junior in high school. He bought his first airplane when he was eighteen years old.

Don joined the Marine Corps when he was only seventeen. When he was discharged, after being stationed at Cherry Point, North Carolina, he decided to fly his airplane home. However, enroute home he encountered fog near the little town of Spindale, North Carolina, and crash-landed in the tops of some pine trees. He suffered only a minor gash on his forehead and scratches and bruises. The crash sure created a lot of excitement in that little mountain town, though!

When he came home from the service, Don and Virginia were married. Don recalled that after serving in the Marine Corps, he still had to have his mother sign so he could get married, as he was only twenty years old!

When asked what his parents were like, he said it was hard to put into words. They weren't overly strict, and they didn't raise their voices a lot. He described them as "ideal" parents.

Speaking of ideal parents ... Don and Virginia raised five daughters on their Wisconsin farm. Donna Nachtrab and Gloria Carow of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Shirley Coomer of Tempe, Arizona; Patti Pulver, Briggsville, Wisconsin; and Barbara Starkey of Joliet, Illinois. Don and Virginia have eleven grandchildren. ■

Charles Bratton— (Continued from page 1)

would walk the levee one and three-quarters to two miles south to a neighbors' place. The Charbonneaux and Bratton children would take a skiff and go about a mile up Huron Chute then walk another quarter of a mile to the school. When the river froze over they were able to walk all the way.

A May 1906 newspaper reported students in Miss Resor's school district having a picnic on the last day of school with the pupils of Miss Odell's school. The Huron Island school closed it's doors in June, 1906.



Several attempts were made to move the old school house (evidently the one on the Uncle's property) to the "Charles Bratton district." Two "traction engines" had failed to pull the building which needed to be moved only three-quarters of a mile to the south. Charles's brother, Thomas, then became involved and a newspaper announced "... *Thomas Bratton, of Keithsburg, a professional in that line, will have charge of the work. It is thought that school can begin on Monday the 17th [Sept, 1906].*"

School did indeed start, for a card (from 1907) shows several Bratton children as students at "Prairie Point School," and lists Hamilton Resor as teacher.

In November, 1905, Charles built a new barn. Crops in 1905 and 1906 were reportedly good. News articles from the area of Huron Island, reported ... "*Charles Bratton has an extensive cane crop from which he is making a superior quality of syrup.*"

Continued on next page

*The Epoch ...
Continued from page 3—*

Hardships Arise

The floods of 1908 were so bad, however, that Charles was only able to raise a little sorghum cane. He "got the blues" and sold out. The family moved to St. Clair County, Missouri, where Charles bought property.

Ed and Clair went in a freight boxcar, with the stock and household goods. Nellie Carlson recalls being told that somehow the boys got "side-tracked" and were missing for several days. They ran out of feed for the animals, as well as food and water for themselves and nearly froze. They huddled in the hay with their jackets tucked around them to keep warm. It took six days for the boys to get to the Rockville station. The rest of the family went on passenger trains.

Nellie also tells that later, while moving goods from Rockville to the farm, Charlie struck a match to light his pipe and the horse was somehow spooked. The wheels of the buggy hit a rock and Charles was thrown out. When Carrie saw the horse run onto the property without Charles, she became worried and ran all the way, and found him badly hurt and laying in a ditch. Neighbors soon came to the rescue and got Charles home. He was "laid up" most of the summer.

Back to the River...

Farming wasn't any better in Missouri, where they had a draught each year. They lost everything and Charlie began to long for the river area again.

Ed and Katie went back to Iowa to work awhile in 1910, but returned a few months later and Ed got married. In March, 1911, Kate and Clair went back to Iowa.

Charles told Carrie if only he could get back to the old river he would be happy. So in October, 1911, the Brattons once again packed their belongings and moved to New Boston, Illinois.



Charles and Carrie Bratton celebrated their 43rd anniversary October 18, 1927, near Oakville Iowa. All the children were home, except Ed, who was in Uteyville, Colorado.

The Nov. 2, 1927, Issue of the *The Oakville Sentinel* detailed the anniversary celebration, calling it "... one of the pleasant social activities of the season," and noted that Mr. and Mrs. Bratton were "... among our most prominent citizens, prosperous farmers who have won the esteem of their every acquaintance during the years of their residence in our midst; despite advance[d] years, they are very active and



Taken about 1913. (L-R): Kate, Mw. T. Cabeen, baby Nellie, Cally Loso, Dale, Charles, Carrie, Philip, Ernie, Max, Earl, Clair, Mae and Ed.

are among the liveliest at social affairs."

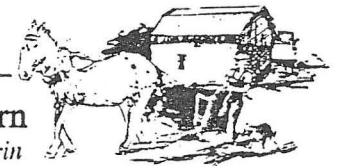
The couple had been blessed with twelve grandchildren by this time, several of whom they never had a chance to meet.

Charles had a stroke on Mother's Day, 1928, confining him to bed until he passed away July 17, 1928 at the age of 70.

After the death of her husband, Carrie moved to Knoxville, Illinois and made her home with her son, Clair, until she "took sick" and passed away (April 4, 1938). Charles and Carrie were both buried in the Greenmound cemetery in Keithsburg, Illinois. ■

Grandpa's Barn

—by Robert J. Perrin



Grandpa said, "I'll build her straight
And I'll build her well.
I'll build her so she'll last a spell."
Then he sat down
When the roof was on
And read a bit from the Gospel of John.

He made her straight in the morning sun,
Never quit 'til the place was done.
When I stand there in the old barnyard
And think how grandfather worked so hard
I'm grateful for a heritage up from the sod,
With a place to work and a place for God.

My heart says "Build it straight,
build it well,
Build it so it will last a spell."

The following chart continues from the last issue with descendents of Allen & Julia Bratton, going by generation (0-7). The beginning letter corresponds with those on the "Bratton Branches" Chart in the April/June '92 issue. Key: +=Spouse, :=child, *=married within family. Again, *please notify us of any corrections or additions* so we can have a correct family history.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

E (Cont'd)

: . Nellie (Kate) Bratton Loso (1890-1967)
 : . +Calvin Harvey Loso (1883-1972)
 : . (Nellie) Ethel Loso Carlson (1912-)
 : . +Clifford Harold Fitzsimmons (1912-1984).
 : . Nellie "Blanche" Fitzsimmons Simmons (1939-)
 : . +Gary Alan Shaver (1937-1973)
 : . Kimberly Diane Shaver Gaskin (1958-)
 : . +Randy Lee Akin (1955-)
 : . : Lisa Marie Akin (1977-)
 : . : Andrea Lynn Akin (1979-)
 : . +James Ralph Gaskin (1948-)
 : . Tanara Lynn Shaver Rogers (1962-)
 : . +Aubrey DeWayne Rierson
 : . +Brian Rogers
 : . : Katelynn Lauren Rogers (1992-)
 : . +Ronald Alphine
 : . +T.J. Lawson
 : . +Carl Ragnar Carlson (1897-1980)
 : . Alfreda Carlson Rulis (1944-)
 : . +Alan Michael Rulis (1944-)
 : . Carrie Louise Rulis (1973-)
 : . Paul Michael Rulis (1976-)
 : . Carol Sue Carlson Jones (1948-)
 : . +Donald Allan Jones (1936-)
 : . Benjamin Allan Jones (1980-)
 : . Gwendolyn Ann Jones (1984-)
 : . Charles Edward Loso (1914-1979)
 : . +Georgia Gordon Monanaker (1918-1981)
 : . James Edward Loso (1940-)
 : . +Karen Jean McWeil Loso (1941-)
 : . Kevin James Loso (1958-)
 : . +Sheryl Lynn Rigney Loso (1959-)
 : . : Jamie Rae Loso (1978-)
 : . : Brian Kevin Loso (1980-)
 : . Derek Evan Loso (1960-)
 : . Matthew Scott Loso (1970-)
 : . Ray Dean Loso (1942-)
 : . +Mary Maxine Prather Loso (1942-)
 : . Kellie Marie Loso (1967-)
 : . Michael Dean Loso (1972-)
 : . +Carol Lorraine Dahl Loso
 : . Steven Robert Loso (1979-)
 : . +Karen Ann Johnson Loso (1947-)
 : . Douglas Loso
 : . Jackie Lee Loso (1944-1944)
 : . Judith Ann Loso (1944-1944)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

: . . . Gloria Jean Loso Anderson (1945-1965)
 : . . . +Leroy Jones
 : . . . Brenda Sue Jones Crowe (1961-)
 : . . . +Darrin Dwayne Crowe (1961-)
 : . . . : Kelsey Blaine Crowe (1978-)
 : . . . : Gavin Riley Crowe (1984-)
 : . . . James Anderson, Jr. (1964-1965)
 : . . . +James Anderson
 : . . . Connie Sue Loso (1950-)
 : . . . +Esmail Rajaie (1948-)
 : . . . Bonnie Lou Loso Wilson (1950-)
 : . . . +Edward Wilson
 : . . . Todd Edward Wilson (1971-)
 : . . . Amy Marie Wilson (1976-)
 : . Lesley Erle Bratton (1893-1956)
 : . +Edna Ruth Brown Bratton (1897-1983)
 : . Frank Dale Bratton (1895-1970)
 : . +Geneva Mildred Resor Bratton (1895-1976)
 : . Keith Dale Bratton (1921-)
 : . +Barbara "Babs" Jean Weedmark Bratton (1926-)
 : . Keith Dale Bratton II (1946-)
 : . +Pamela Ann Woodward Bratton (1946-)
 : . Kristie Rebecca Bratton (1970-)
 : . Korina Jean Bratton (1973-)
 : . David Ray Bratton (1948-)
 : . +Cheryl Ann Miller Bratton (1948-)
 : . Jefferey David Bratton (1975-)
 : . Kimberly Irlene Bratton (1979-)
 : . Zella Marie Bratton Walton (1924-)
 : . +Durward Grady Walton (1921-)
 : . Wanda Lou Walton Poelman (1950-)
 : . +Clarence (Gene) Poelman (1949-)
 : . Cheryl Ann Poelman (1977-)
 : . Charles Robert Poelman (b. 1978)
 : . Louise Hamilton Bratton Pantone (1930-)
 : . +Donato A. Pantone (1927-)
 : . Lisa Louise Pantone Garland (1961-)
 : . +Kevin William Garland
 : . Linda Jill Pantone Hynes (1964-)
 : . +Jeffrey Thomas Hynes
 : . Dorothy Geneva Bratton Naseem (1933-)
 : . +Samuel Abnash Naseem (1940-)
 : . Michael Abnash Naseem (1972-)
 : . Patrick Alan Naseem (1975-)

Continued on next page

*Lives of great men all remind us we can make our lives sublime, And,
departing, leave behind us footprints in the sands of time.*

-- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

: . Ernest Noble Bratton (1899-1965)
: . +Florence Rebecca Creacy Bratton (1901-1967)
: . . Florence (Oneta) Bratton Klein (1923-)
: . . +Robert Joseph Klein (1927-1966)
: . . . Robert Joseph Klein, Jr. (1950-)
: . . . +Maria Eugenia Rangel Klein (1949-)
: Eugenia "Elkie" Lorraine Klein (1972-)
: Rebecca Clair Klein Wyatt (1951-)
: +Robert Scott Wyatt (1950-)
: Jacob Robert Wyatt (1969-)
: Suede Rebecca Wyatt (1972-)
: +Bruce Lee Kelly
: +Samuel Arthur Wood
: James Anthony Klein (1953-)
: +Mitsuko Shimoda Klein (1953-)
: Margaret "Maggie" Anne Klein Cohea (1957-)
: +David J. Cohea (1950-)
: Susan Jessica Cohea (1985-)
: Meganne Holley Cohea (1987-)
: David Jesse "DJ" Cohea (1989-)
: Timothy Gerard Klein (1959-)
: +Lora Sue VanHorn Klein (1959-)
: Courtney Sue Klein (1989-)
: Thomas William Klein (1962-)
: . . Ernest (Don) Bratton (1928-)
: . . +Helen (Virginia) Zimmerman Bratton (1932-)
: . . . Donna Joan Bratton Nachtrab (1950-)
: . . . +Steven Lee Nachtrab (1949-)
: Sherri Lee Nachtrab (1976-)
: Diana Marie Nachtrab (1977-)
: Michelle Lynn Nachtrab (1980-)
: Gloria Elaine Bratton Carow (1951-)
: +Michael Carow
: Christine Marie Carow (1975-)
: Thomas Michael Carow (1977-)
: Lori Michelle Carow (1981-)
: Shirley Aileen Bratton Coomer (1954-)
: +Christopher Blair Coomer (1953-)
: Joseph Christopher Coomer (1977-)
: Marcus Andrew Coomer (1981-)
: Patricia Jo Bratton Droste (1957-)
: +Kenneth Lee Droste (1956-)
: Christopher Michael Droste (1981-)
: Cody Lee Droste (1985-)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

: . . . Barbara Ann Bratton Starkey (1964-)
: +James Walter Lindloff
: Brandon James Lindloff (1983-)
: +Scott Starkey
: Ponda Ireta Bratton Ramer (1929-1988)
: +Lyle (Keith) Ramer (1922-)
: Kenneth Alan Ramer (1950-)
: +Mirta Perez Ramer (1952-)
: Beverly Ann Ramer Maronn (1952-)
: +Jody Lee Mesch (1952-)
: Shelby Lynn Mesch (1974-)
: Sydney Jaye Mesch (1977-)
: Matthew Lee Mesch (1981-)
: +Dennis Maronn
: . . . Max Clifford Bratton (1901-1988)
ⓔ Clyde Bratton (1864-1882)

ONLY THE WORDS HAVE BEEN CHANGED...To entertain the genealogist

Here's a cute little "diddy" to sing to the tune of
"Somewhere Over The Rainbow" for those of us
interested in genealogy:

SOMEWHERE LOST IN THE COURTHOUSE --by Marge Waterfield

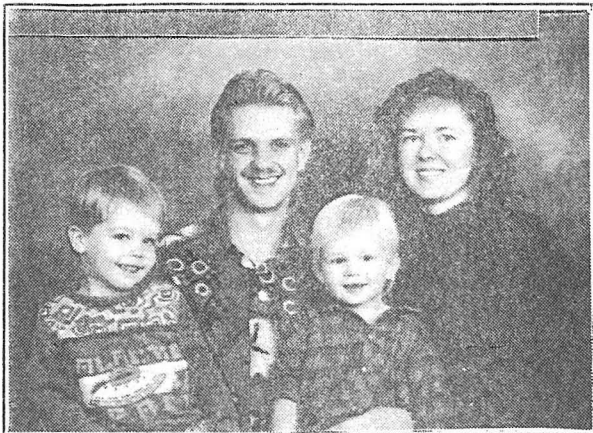
Somewhere lost in the courthouse,
is Grandpa's birth;
He said he was born in New England,
Boston or Ft. Worth.
Each census gets more confusing,
His age went up and down,
Some decades he aged only five years
...others, they did abound.
Sometimes I feel so frus-trat-ed,
I search and search for doc-u-ments
... some dated.
A marriage license would be very nice
...a death would even more suffice;
But where to find them.
Somewhere lost in the courthouse,
is proof for me;
That Grandpa really married grandma,
And I am their true posterity.

NAMES & FACES

1992 - 93

Recent family photos we've received and are sharing to help you become acquainted with other Bratton families.

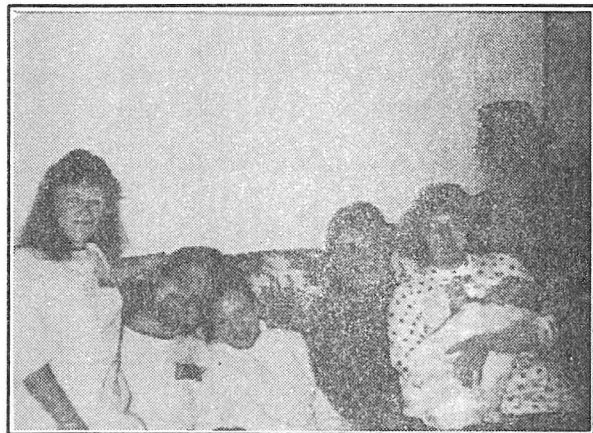
"Life is like a Bank—You can't take out what you don't put into it."



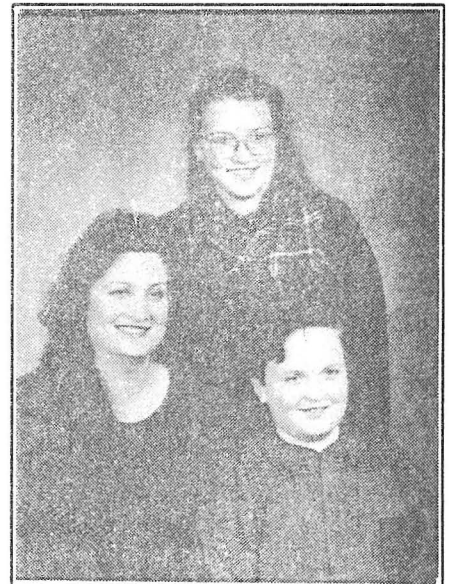
The Don Wixom family: Don, Barbi, Tyler and Mitchell



The Jim Loso Family: Karen, Jim, Kevin, Derik and Matt. Jim is the grandson of Calvin & Nellie Kate Bratton Loso.



The Earl Martin Family: (L-R)—Eric & Angie Martin, Amanda, Teri & Sean Martin and baby Jessica, and Earl Martin (son of Dorothy Bratton Martin Jeffers).



The Darrin Crowe Family: (L-R) Brenda, Kelsey & Gavin. Brenda is the granddaughter of Charles & Georgia Loso.



Pat & Pete Schebler (taken at the Hofbräuhaus in Germany.) Pat is at the left end, Pete is on the right. The other two people are doctor friends of theirs. (Pete is a grandson of Anna Bratton Britt.)

The Bratton Family Reunion

will be held the weekend of July 4, 1993 in Van Duyne, WI. Further information is expected for the next issue. Meanwhile, contact Steve & Donna Nachtrab if you have questions:
W 8707 W. Lone Elm Rd,
Van Duyne, WI 54901

Q: I find it rather difficult sometimes to pin down how a person fits into a family line. Is there a way to let us know how we're related?

A: Thanks for your comment. That is our problem, exactly. We try (especially in the "News & Notes" column) to get the relationship down to the nearest "Bratton" relative; but sometimes it would take space—often several lines which would not fit our allotted space—to pin down the exact relation. Often the same family line is mentioned in an earlier paragraph, and with detective work, the relationship could be figured out. If anyone has a suggestion, please let us hear from you.

C: I'm so excited about the "Bratton Bulletin"! The Christmas issue was fabulous! I can't wait for each issue to come. When I find it in the mail box I can't run inside fast enough to read every word. This newsletter has made us feel like we are part of a real family. Thanks for all your hard work!

Special thanks to those who made contributions for this issue—whether full articles or information for such: Nellie Carlson, Laurie Bluedorn, Richard Lehnert, Donna Nachtrab and Shirley Coomer. Much of the cover story was taken from Clair Bratton's hand-written notes.

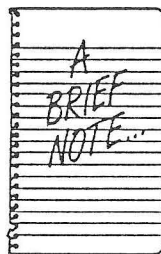
Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is a column for your questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

Correction: The photo on page 3 in the October issue was mislabeled, and we wrongly informed you that it was Walter and Myrtle Bratton. That photo is of Arthur Allen and Iva Delia Schaffer Bratton.

Q: Do you have any information on the "Bratton Horse" and the "Bratton Castle"? I believe they are found in England. What are the chances that you can put something in the newsletter about these?

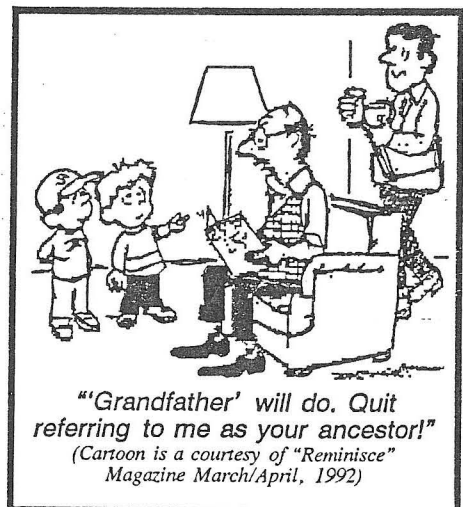
A: We've been researching a little on these things. We hope to have permission to use an article in the April issue on the "Bratton Horse." Stay tuned...



The Bratton Bulletin evolved after a discussion at our family reunion. It was started with the intention of keeping communication within the family. We wanted all interested parties to receive issues; so have continued mailings even if no subscription has been sent. We have had excellent response from many of you who are receiving it. Up until now, Carl and I have covered the cost with the exception of some of you who have sent in your subscription rate. After this January issue, however, it will be necessary to delete from the mailing list any one who has not sent in the \$5.00, as we are no longer able to assume the full burden of this ourselves. This suggested \$5/year only covers the costs incurred—actual cost of production and postage—we are not charging for time or other related expenses. If you have not paid for your subscription, please consider doing so soon. If you do not wish to receive it, please let us know at once. Thank you!

Q: I received an offer in the mail recently about a book available of all the Brattons since the Civil War. Do you know anything about it?

A: Warning! I have read recently where The American Library Association has issued an alert on unsolicited family newsletters and books. "If the advertisement offers a coat of arms, it is almost always bogus. The frauds carry such deceptive titles as *Vanderventers Since the Civil War*, *Who's Who in the Vanderventer Family*, or *National Registry of the Living Vanderventers*. In every case, the only thing that specifically relates to any family in such books is the quotation of the definition of the family name from standard books on American surnames, the Dictionary of American Names, and even the author's given name ... appears incorrectly." ((Quoted information from Lloyd Bockstuck, supervisor of the genealogy section of the J. Erik Johnsson Central Library, Dallas, TX, and recognized authority on genealogy.))



ARMCHAIR CHALLENGE!



Figure out our message by following these steps to the puzzle:

- 1) Using definitions, fill in as many words as you can.
- 2) Transfer letters onto the solution spaces—matching numbers.
- 3) Work back and forth from solution to words to find possible clues. *Answers will be found in this issue.*

Bratton 63

Relations/family

1 5 6 26 18 8 4

Wife of Uncle

20 12 9 10

Invention by Bell

17 2 23 3 4 14 11 29 2

Letters, etc.

21 20 22 23

Duplicate/copy

19 20 13 26 16 21 25 23 3

Orphan/foundling

15 20 22 27

Fellow/chap

7 28 24

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

**Deadline for
Next Issue:**

March 24, 1993

The Bratton Bulletin

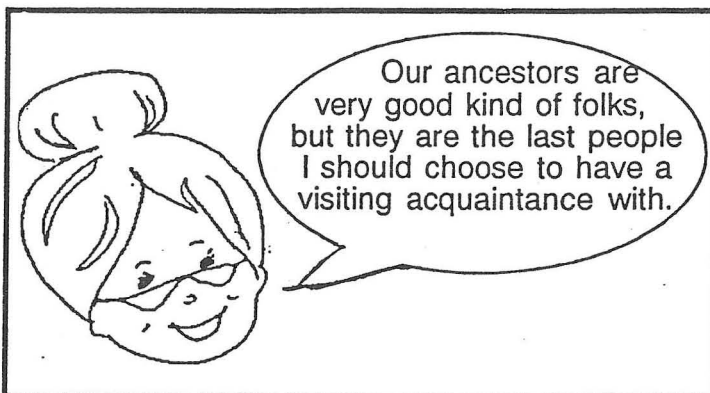
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson

28750 SE Haley Rd.

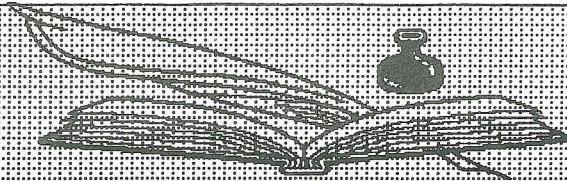
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & address correction requested

Granny B. says ...



When does your subscription expire? Check your mailing label.



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

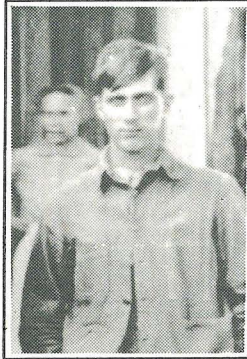
Vol. 4, Issue 2

October - December 1994

Ernest Bratton ... As Honest As He Was Tall

Sixth in line of Charles and Carrie Bratton's children, Ernest Noble Bratton was born in Oakville, Iowa, on June 17, 1899.

Ernie was tall and slender, and actually the tallest of all the boys in the family. Like his other siblings, he had brown hair and blue eyes. He attended the Prairie Point school with his brothers and sister until they moved to Rockville, Missouri. Then he attended the Rockville school.



Ernie about the age of 15.

Ernie was quiet and easy-going, yet fun-loving and somewhat mischievous. He always loved a good tease as long as it was in fun and good taste. He enjoyed fishing and hunting with his brothers, and get-togethers with friends and neighbors.

At the age of 22, Ernest went to Palmyra, Missouri, to stay with his brother, Eddy. There were jobs available doing road construction, so they worked together for a short time. During this time, Ernest met and fell in love with Florence Rebecca Creacy. He later returned to Palmyra and married Florence on November 9, 1922. Florence was born on August 2, 1901, to Marvin and Bessie Harving Creacy in Maywood, MO.

Ernie and Florence, Dale and Genie and Charlie and Carrie celebrated their anniversaries together frequently, as their marriage dates were within a week or so of each others.

The newly-wed couple rented a farm near New Boston, IL. They often fished together, as Florence liked to fish even better than Ernie did.

Soon after their marriage, their first child, Florence Oneta Bratton, was born (June 24, 1923). She was a beauty and very well loved.

Ernest Don Bratton was born August 16, 1928. The couple's first-born son and middle child. Following shortly thereafter on December 26, 1929, Fonda Ireta was born. She was a beautiful Christmas present!

Florence and Ernie moved East of Swan Lake, Illinois, and they lived and farmed there until Don started high school. Then they moved North of New Boston.

Florence was a very good cook, and also very easy-going. Don recalls that he would often have his friends come

over to the house; and the boys often ended up spending the night. Florence never really knew how many boys would tumble out for breakfast the next morning, but always had enough food prepared for them.

Ernie and Max often farmed and hauled crops together. Max was a trucker, and the men would take cucumbers and tomatoes into Muscatine to the Heinz factory to sell their produce. Ernie also raised some hogs.

Some of Ernie and Max's favorite things to do on the weekend were play cards, fry fish and make ice cream. It was quite a combination, but they enjoyed it. They really loved their home-made ice cream; in fact, they probably made ice cream more than anyone.

Ernest was very honest, and even quite generous. He would often bend over backwards to make sure the land lady had more than was due, even if he really didn't have the extra.

One time when the whole family was out cutting wood together, Ernest had locked the door to the house. While

(Continued on page 4)



Ernie & Florence, possibly taken on their wedding day.



Dale and Genie, Carrie and Charlie, and Florence and Ernest at the Charles Bratton home on Sunday, Oct. 30, 1927.

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES



The Family's Growing ...

We are very happy for **Scott and Barbara Starkey**, who are the parents of a baby girl, **Breighannah Kellen MORGANNE Starkey**, born June 15, 1994.

* * *

Congratulations also to **Jim and Mitsuko Klein** on the birth of their daughter. **Serena Ruriko** was born August 16, and weighed in at 8# 14 oz. Serena joins 2 ½ year old sister, Clara.

* * *

David and Kim Wixom are the proud parents of a 8# 2oz, 20½" long, son, born on Saturday, September 10. **Dakota Ellis** joins sister, **Danica**. (By the way, this is grandchild #17 for Norval Ellis Wixom—and more on the way!)

* * *

Cindy Rassi Rezba and Dan Regalia were united in marriage on May 27 at the home of her parents, Don and Lillian Rassi in East Peoria, IL. Dan is currently in the Marine Corps and stationed in Memphis, TN, but currently on his way to a station in Japan.

* * *

... and Moving Around !

Tom Klein moved from Wisconsin to New York in July. He and his sister, **Becky**, are sharing an apartment. His new address: 111-E 14th St. #217, New York, NY 10003.

* * *

James and Mary (Wixom) Stephens and family moved from Visalia, CA, to Idaho Falls, ID, in June. James is School Administrator and Associate Pastor at New Life Christian Academy. Mary also teaches first and second grade there. Their new address is: 770 Maurine Dr., Idaho Falls, ID 83401.

* * *

Gary Bratton (son of Earl and Shirley Bratton) has moved from Anchorage, AK and has opened up a new restaurant in Bodega Bay, CA. The Hungry Heron Restaurant has a menu that can't be beat! His restaurant features fish cooked on cedar planks, in the style of the Northwest Pacific Indians. Best wishes for continued success, Gary!

* * *

Barb (Bratton) and Scott Starkey relocated in August and are back in the good ole' "country." Their new address is: 358 E. Montello St., Montello, WI 53943.

* * *

Richard E. Lehnert, after officially retiring from the U.S. Navy, has purchased a home at Ft. Collins, CO., where the family is getting settled. Lloya was able to

get a job with their local school district offices. The girls are getting situated in their new school surroundings.

* * *

Keeping in Touch ...

Connie Loso had a serious surgery in June to remove her right great toe and some additional bone. She has been going through rehabilitation. We wish her a quick and complete recovery.

* * *

Mildred (Bratton) Banks has been enjoying her swimming pool daily this summer. She says it has reached up to 125 degrees in the Desert Hot Springs area, so most of her summer was spent just trying to keep cool.

* * *

Amy Wilson (daughter of Ed and Bonnie Loso Wilson) spent ten days in August with her church youth group. They took a mission trip to California where they spent time on an Indian reservation.

* * *

Viola and Leonard Herzman spent some time in Kauai, Hawaii, in August. They took a boat trip, saw a blow horn and "shopped till they dropped;" and that was all at the beginning of the trip! I'm sure we'll hear more!

* * *

Earl and Shirley Bratton have been busy enlarging their house (in Bodega Bay, CA) by adding on a new kitchen and a huge deck, so they will have a better view of the ocean, harbor and Bodega Head.

* * *

The **Don Bratton family** was able to get together in August to celebrate his birthday, as well as **Shirley Coomer's** and **Barb Starkey's**. Little Breighannah was the center of attention, as Shirley got to see her neice for the first time. By the way, Shirley, this was the "big" day, huh? Was everyone REALLY wearing black?!

* * *

Alice and Verne Miller have recently been told that Verne has a mass or tumor on his lungs. At this printing they were waiting for a second biopsy. You can send cards and words of encouragement to them at PO Box 784, Oakville, IA 52646-0784.

* * *

John and Cindy (Thomas) Goodman have been keeping quite busy this summer with a different sort of project. They are doing some excavation on their property to move in a small mobile home to use as a "guest house" when their parents come to visit. The job is getting a little tougher now that the rains have hit, however. Good luck, you two!

* * *

... Always Means So Much!

Many thanks to those who have kept in touch with us with news and notes this quarter. It helps us greatly to have "reporters" or a person who makes him/herself responsible for this effort.

In the Spotlight...



Richard Lehnert— Helping to Preserve the Precious Past

Oakville, Iowa, resident Richard Lehnert is among a group of six special, dedicated people who resurrect a town's forgotten past. This group forms the Louisa County Cemetery Board, who restores broken grave markers in the Louisa County cemeteries. Their primary concern is graves that are so old that no existing relatives are interested. They use a special epoxy for broken stones, lift and pour cement footings under those that are tipped or fallen, etc. All the work is done with the approval of the Township Trustees and/or Cemetery Boards, if they exist.

Richard was also the one who wrote the epitaph for the memorial stone placed in the Mallory Cemetery. [See plaque photo at right.]

After the flooding of the Mississippi River in the spring of 1858, many people returned to their homes and businesses. These people were struck with Typhoid or Yellow fever and a mass burial became necessary at the Mallory Cemetery. Burris City has long been mentioned in history books of the area, but no

physical evidence of that city now exists.

Mr. Lehnert's line goes back four generations to that of our progenitor, Allen Wilson Bratton. He is the son of Anna Bratton Lehnert Murphy Hilten, grandson of Elmer Bratton, and great grandson of John R. Bratton (who was Allen's 2nd son). Richard and his wife, Jane, have been married for nearly 50 years (1945) and have raised three children. They now have four grandchildren, as well as four great grandchildren.

Richard spent a one and one-half years in the U.S. Army following his high school graduation. Following his stint in the service, he worked in a wholesale hardware company for five years; worked at the Iowa Ordnance Plant from 1951 to 1971; and purchased and operated a general store in Oakville from 1964-1984. "Running the general store was possible only through the efforts of Mrs. Lehnert, who kept things on an even keel while I worked a night shift at the Ordnance Plant and assisted in uncountable ways." Also during this time (1962- 1979), he also acted as town clerk in Oakville. Richard and Jane purchased a small local insurance agency in 1974, which the couple ran until 1989. "I also read a few books in my spare time," Mr. Lehnert says.

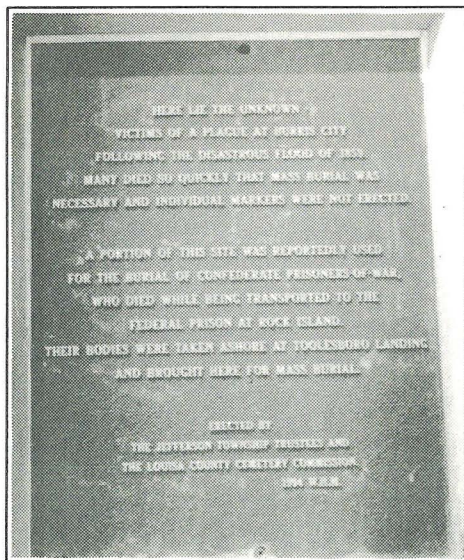
Richard spends his winter months going through old newspapers, abstracts, etc. and has much material in his collection. Much of this material has been combined in the Oakville centennial book put out by the City of Oakville via its Centennial Committee. This book is now available through the city, or through the Louisa County Historical Society. Richard says, "I can claim a small part in preparing the book."

The Lehnerts also have a hobby [or collection] like very few other people. He likes to read. Not unusual? Well, read on ...

Zane Grey and Louis L'Amour are among the western favorites, but Richard and Jane also enjoy adventure, murder, detective stories, and most others—giving us an idea of the couple's wide variety of interests. Of course, Agatha Christie is also a favorite.

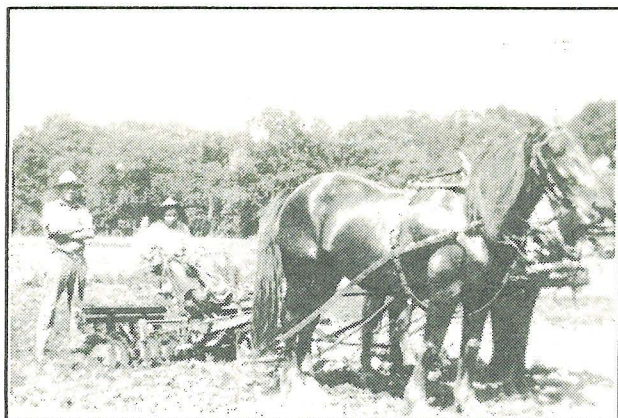
To take care of his hobby and collection, Richard maintains a separate, small building in town and keeps his private library of books, news clippings, and other interesting things there. "I pretty much spends some time daily in the library." He says he has probably about 20,000 books in his collection. He has shelf space for nine to ten thousand ... "The rest are piled." Many of these books are historical and/or pertain to Oakville and the vicinity.

We have appreciated the opportunity to use many of the news articles Richard has clipped and sent our way. They have been helpful in our quarterly columns, as well as beneficial in helping us to know a little more about the Brattons. Richard Lehnert truly is helping to preserve the precious past.



Dedication written by Mr. Lehnert for the plaque at the Mallory Cemetery. This plaque commemorates the memory of those whose lives were lost in 1859.

Ernest Bratton ...
Continued from page 1



Ernie and Max at work on the farm

they were gone, someone broke the screen door, entered the house, and stole \$5.00 from Ernest's wallet. From that time on, Ernest said he wouldn't lock his door, as he didn't want to have the expense of fixing anything. If someone needed the money that badly they could have it.

Don cannot remember his parents ever arguing or even raising their voices much. Ernest and Florence had a wonderful marriage, as they truly cared for one another. They were "ideal" parents.

Shirley Coomer, Ernie's grand daughter, can remember the first time she ever saw popcorn on the cob. She was amazed that her grandpa could grow it. She also remembers how bushy her grandpa's eyebrows were and a "mop of hair!"

There were also times when visiting their grandparents that they would go down the road just a ways and pick peaches. "They were huge and juicy-sweet. We girls would be up in the tree picking, with grandpa on the ground filling the buckets." She also remembers that they always had lots of cats in the pump house and the grandkids always had fun trying to catch the "wild" cats, as theirs at home were tame.

Ernie was a very lovable man. He always had a big hug and a genuine

concern for those who came to visit. The family was religious and hard working. They all kept high values and kept busy, as the normal farming families do.

Ernest lost his side vision in 1948. His eyes bothered him alot, but continued to raise hogs. He and Florence also continued to fish together.

In October of 1964, Ernie had a stroke and decided it was time to retire. Early in 1965, the couple held a farm sale; and they purchased a home in Joy, Illinois. They were in the process of moving when Ernest passed away.

On January 22, 1967, Florence died at the General Hospital. It is believed that she had a stroke, although she had been diagnosed with leukemia just before she died. She and Ernie are both buried at the Greenmound Cemetery in Keithsburg, IL.

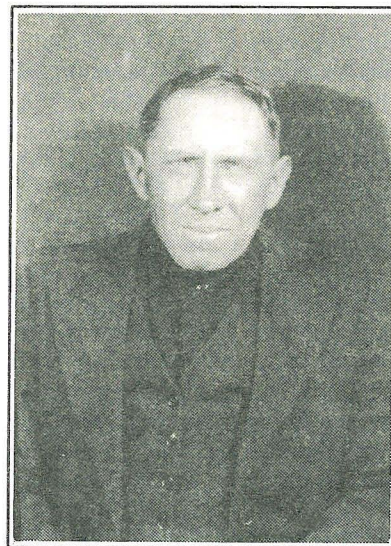
Oneta graduated in 1941 from New Boston High School and attended the University of Galesburg and Mount St. Clare College. She was a veteran of World War II, serving as a WAC where she was a corporal. She married Robert J. Klein on June 25, 1949 in Rock Island, IL. The couple had six children before Robert's sudden death from a fall at a sewage plant, in September of 1966. Oneta managed to work and raise her children on her own until they were grown. She died of a sudden heart attack on July 24, 1991.

Don left home at the age of 17 and joined the Marine Corps. When he returned home from the service, he

married Helen (Virginia) Zimmerman. They were married March 27, 1949. Together, they had five lovely daughters. The girls are continuing to provide Don and Virginia with grandchildren (12 at the moment). Don ran a dairy farm in Wisconsin for many years until he retired.

Fonda married Lyle Ramer on November 8, 1949, at Muscatine, Iowa. She worked for the Thatcher Plastic Company for over 23 years. She and Lyle had two children and five grandchildren before her sudden death on May 26, 1988.

Ernie and Florence left a heritage of honesty, love, and a knowledge of the Lord behind for their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. ■



Ernest Bratton. No date known. Possibly taken at a carnival photory.

**IT IS INDEED A
DESIREABLE THING
TO BE WELL DESCENDED,
BUT THE GLORY BELONGS
TO OUR ANCESTORS.**

Grave Matters: Epitaphs and Tombstones



My trip is ended. Send my samples home is a humorous epitaph found on the headstone of a traveling salesman buried in Iowa.

In a survey by the Monument Industry Information Bureau (MIIB) several years ago, the question was asked of some well-known American personalities: "If you could write your own tombstone epitaph today, what would you say?"

Some of the answers:

George Burns: *I wish I were standing here reading this instead of you.*

Mick Jagger: *Here lies the head Stone.*

Erma Bombeck: *She wasn't always funny--but she was never unkind.*

Johny Carson: *I'll be right back!*

Descriptive epitaphs have always been a part of cemetery lore. While some people consider cemeteries "spooky" or "eerie," cemeteries can tell us much about our ancestors. We should consider them as markers of a life now past; and then try to learn from them. Some epitaphs tell the story of death, others of how the life was lived. Still others provide a warning or a lesson.

Headstones were the first type of cemetery memorial used by our ancestors. Sometimes the headstones, though simple slabs of stone, were enriched

with carvings and epitaphs. Today, because of the inventions of lawn mowers, and other yard equipment, the most prevalent markers are memorial plaques and flat headstones. The tall, standing symbols found in older sites are very rarely placed on a newer grave.



Early churchyard stones hold a fascination for most people because they are imbued with human sentiment and emotion.

Colonial headstones move and inspire us because they tell a story or inspire us with some beautiful or humorous tribute.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, VA, would be just another public monument were it not for the superb way it reads: *Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known but to God.*

Many of the symbols have meanings that can be translated by local monument works or sales outlets. There are also books in your local library that may have illustrations of designs, explanations and meanings of various flowers, trees and other symbols. Lambs are a favorite found on children's stones, as it means "innocence." A broken ring symbolizes "family circle severed." A butterfly signifies "short-lived, early death." A lily or Lily-of-the-valley is an emblem of innocence and purity. Many other symbols are also used, as well as various religious, fraternal, military and labor organizations' icons.

Traditionally, Memorial Day is the time we visit the graves of our ancestors. You might want to visit the grave of a loved one at other times, as well. These visits are important ways to remember relatives. An opportunity is also provided, when visiting a cemetery, to pass along family history to our children.

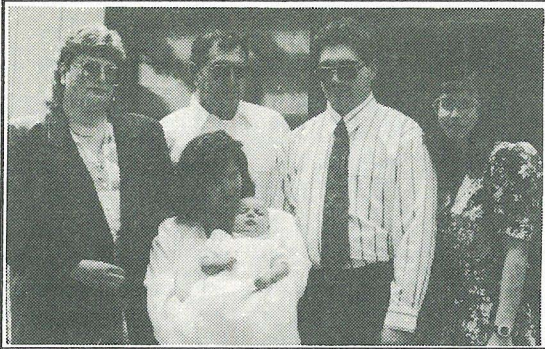
With the knowledge that my mother's spirit is in heaven and only her physical remains are under ground, my son and I recently went to visit the cemetery. We spent time reading other stones and epitaphs. We wondered about some of the dates and what those people were like. Some were only infants when they died.

Upon arriving at my mother's stone, Andrew asked, "Mom, what was grandma like?" ... "Would I have loved her?" ... "Did Scott know her?" ... My mom had died just a few months after Andrew was born. It was the first and last time they would see each other on this earth.; Heart-rending as his questions were, I was able to spend some time communicating with my son about his very special grandma, who he will never know personally. I wouldn't have missed that time sharing with him for the world! His grandma's rosebud on her headstone symbolizes a "meaningful life." Hers was just that. We will always remember her with fondness, as she was *Too well loved to be forgotten.*

Portions abstracted, and used by permission, from Myra Vanderpool Gormley's Prodigy column (c) 1993, LA Times Syndicate.

NAMES & FACES 1994

"A loving heart is the truest wisdom."



The Bonnie (Loso) and Ed Wilson Family: (L-R back) Bonnie, Ed, Todd and Amy; (front) Kari and baby Hunter. This photo was taken at Todd and Kari's wedding on May 1, 1994.



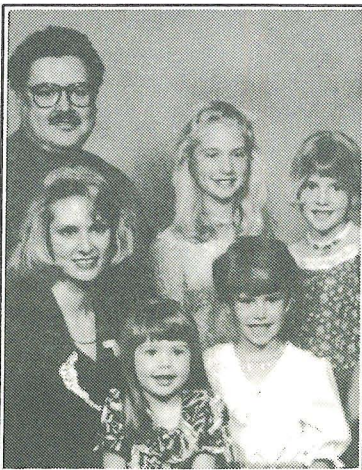
Bruce and Kelly (Loso) Baxter on their wedding day May 14, 1994. (See last issue's "News & Notes" column)



Elizabeth Bratton Ruth
(daughter of Arthur and grand
daughter of Thomas Jefferson
Bratton)

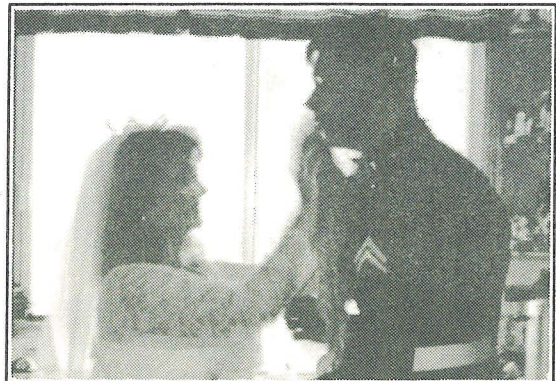


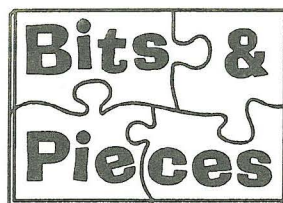
Those who were still around at the BBQ by "picture-taking time." *Back row:* Norval Wixom, Mary Stephens, Kim and Dave Wixom, Sam Naseem, Scott Mickelson, Mike and Pat Naseem, Keith Bratton, Jim Loso, Ed Wilson. *Center:* Jeannie Wixom, Maryan Bratton, Kim Bratton, Babs Bratton, Zella Walton, Nellie Carlson, Lou Pantone, Dot Naseem, Bonnie Wilson, Barbi Wixom, Mitchell Wixom, Karen Loso. *Front row:* Rachel and Leah Stephens, Ruth and Andrew Mickelson. *On ground:* Rebekah Stephens, Danica Wixom and Sarah Stephens. (Taking photos: Duke Heimbigner, Don and Tyler Wixom, and Vickey Drennen.)



At Left: The James Stephens Family. James, Mary, Rachel (on lap) Rebekah, Sarah and Leah

At Right: Dan and Cindy (Rassi) Regalia on their wedding day, just after cutting the cake.





"Bits & Pieces" is a column for questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

Nov. 18 - Viola Jacobs McCannon -95

Dec. 1 - Margaret Olive Bratton - 84

Dec. 24 - Virginia Haigh Knudsen -74

By the way, several have asked for birthday/anniversary lists. These are available free, just send a #10 (long) self-addressed, stamped envelope.

* * *

Christmas issue?

Do you remember your first snow sled? Did you ever have a pair of ice skates? How did you ever roll a snowman so large? Plans are being made for another Winter newsletter. Please send any memories of winter, snow or Christmas in general, photos, or whatever you'd like to submit for the winter issue, no later than Nov. 15.

* * *

The Boring BBQ, held on August 7, was a great success. Forty friends and relatives gathered at Jeannie and Vickey's home in Boring. We could tell you much more, but the following "rap" (written by Don Wixom for the talent show) probably sums it up in fewer words.

*My name is Don
His name is Dave
Now just settle back
Don't rant and rave.*

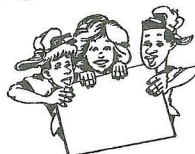
*Here we are at the Bar-be-cue.
We're glad to see each one of you.
We've had lots of fun,
and we flew some kites.
We ate some burgers
with some awful big bites.
We got all wet as we played in the pool;
Then from the nature walk, I looked like a fool.
There's lots of relatives ...
we've got cousins from Montana
We even saw Dot
wearing a bandana.
There's "fix-em up" Duke,
who helped build the tables;
And our little Ruthie
who made our name labels.
From Washington we've got
Ed and Bonnie
And also Duke's nieces,
Shannon and Connie.
Here's Keith and Babs from
California.
Keith has lots of stories--
just thought I'd warn ya.
It's nice to see Lou from LA LA land.*

She just might sing if we can find a band.

*We're glad to see Nellie from Illinois,
to see her face is always a joy!
There's lots of neat family from
Renton way
And it's nice to see Cindy
and her friend Charolay.
There's lots of folks here, nearly forty.
We all ate too much, oh Lordy, Lordy.
Now get ready for some talent,
but don't take a nap.
Thanks a bunch for comin'!
And that's a rap!*

* * *

1995 Reunion Changes



Many of you may have heard about the change in plans regarding the 1995 reunion. This change from holding the reunion at Timber Lodge in Colorado Springs, CO, was beyond our control, as it was cancelled by the management. We appreciate the extra effort that Keith Bratton is making in researching another place for our get-together (in the area of Denver/ Colorado Springs). Keith hopes to be sending a letter out within the next few weeks or so with the current information to our entire mailing list. We will also update you in the Winter edition of this newsletter.

* * *



We don't usually list all birthdays, as we're a little fearful we might leave someone out; but, we want to send some **Special Birthday Wishes** to some of our "senior" family members whose birthdays occur this quarter:

Oct. 11 - Ethel Bratton Rassi - 86
Oct. 13 - Elizabeth Bratton Ruth -80
Oct. 14 - Nellie Loso Carlson - 82
Oct. 21 - Glenn Resor Parrott - 82
Nov. 5 - Henrietta (Jane) Lehnert - 70

In answer to many of you who have asked about photos ... any



photos sent to me for use will be returned. The process I use to make half-tones for reproducing in this newsletter does not harm the photos. I now return all photos unless they are tagged for me to keep for the files.

There are also many family members who still do not receive the *Bratton Bulletin*. If you have sons or daughters, grandchildren, etc., who do not receive this publication, and who you think might enjoy receiving it, please send us their names and addresses and we will send out a free sample copy.

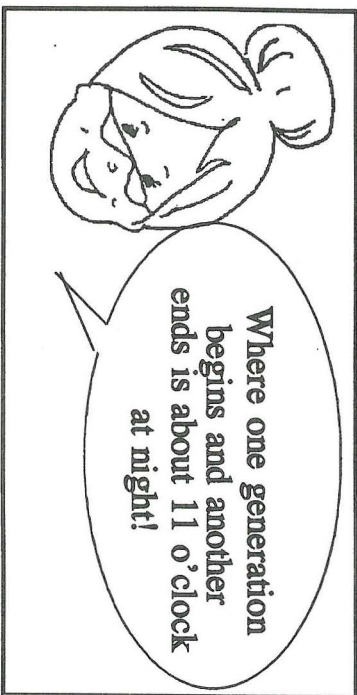
Yes! We want to hear from you. Any ideas, questions, quips/quotes, etc. (or if you just want a "pen pal") are always welcome. I understand I've been difficult to reach, so I'd like to include all my "phone numbers." For those of you who are computer buffs with modems, I can be reached on Prodigy at JTYE71A, via Internet at JTYE71A@Prodigy.com. Messages can be left at (503) 663-6190 (FAX me at this number, too, if you'd like. You'll need to call first though, so we can get it set up.) Our regular phone number is (503) 663-6387; and, of course, I can always be reached via the good ol' US mail service. Thanks again to those of you who keep in touch!

--Ruthie

Answers to Puzzle:

"He who leaves home
to set the world on fire,
often comes back for
more matches."

When does your subscription expire? Check your label.



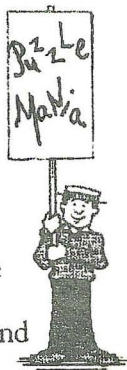
Granny B. says ...

Forwarding & Address Correction requested

The Bratton Bulletin
 Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
 28750 SE Haley Rd.
 Boring, OR 97009-9440



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | | 16 | 17 | | 18 | 19 | 20 | | 21 | 22 | 23 | | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | 29 | 30 | | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | | 35 | 36 | 37 |
| 38 | 39 | | | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | | 49 |
| 50 | 51 | | | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 |



Fill in the letters for as many clues as you can. Then put those letters in the puzzle boxes which have the same numbers. Sometimes you will be able to complete a word in the puzzle and that may help you solve a clue you didn't get.

CLUES:

Couch

44 25 31 46

Residences

12 29 14 38 18

Tulle, mesh

39 2 37

Sent

56 8 32 27 43 28

Owl's talk

1 5 41 16

Instructor

21 10 57 40 60 61 26

Back Bone

9 23 51 58 19 45 54 57 55

Sleeper's noise

11 30 53 33 15

Sneeze Sound

8 59 4 13 50

A majority of

42 35 62 20

Tease, Mime

52 35 49 48

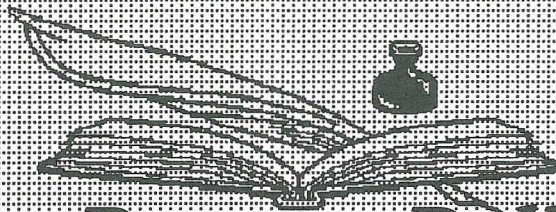
Husband's mate

24 32 49 7

Entire

3 22 17 6 34

Bratton 71



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol. 3, Issue 2

October-December 1993

Nellie Kate Bratton Loso—A Quiet and Gentle Lady

---By Nellie Loso Carlson

She was a quiet and gentle person—my mother, Nellie Kate Bratton. She was born December 2, 1890, the third child of Charles and Carrie Bratton.

Nellie was named for her mother's Aunt Ellen Hardin Crane (who had changed her name to Nellie because she did not like the name Ellen), and her mother's mother, Katherine or Kate. She was called "Kate" or "Katie" by her parents, brothers other relatives and friends.

Nellie was the only girl in the family with seven brothers, so she soon became "mother's helper." There was always a baby to watch and entertain, and as she grew older she was taught to help with housework, washing and ironing, in the garden and taught to sew and crochet. She wasn't always working, as she had time to play with toys and played games with her brothers. They all loved to run races, jump and play tag or hide-and-seek. With her younger brothers, while they were still small, she got them to play "tea party" with her and her dolls, by promising them she would play one of their games with them

later. At Christmas she would receive a doll or doll clothes, story books or a ball and jacks. I still have one of the dolls.

You will recall in past issues of the *Bratton Bulletin* about the Bratton family's education in the little one-room school house on Huron Island, about how Grandpa Charles and other fathers had to make their desks and chairs for each child, and how they had to walk or go in a boat, depending on where they lived, to school. Through all the difficulties, Grandma Carrie and Grandpa Charles made their children feel it was worth every effort to get an education. The boys, as they grew older, left to help with the field work in the spring, and did not return as early in the fall as Kate and the younger boys.

Kate enjoyed school because it gave her the chance to be with other girls, something she needed and longed for in the way of companionship. She loved her teachers and always spoke of them as "friends", and kept in contact with some of them for several years by writing letters.

One of her first teachers was Hamilton Resor. He had four daughters, two of them later became her sister-in-laws. One daughter, Stella, was the same age as Kate, and they became the "dearest of friends" for the rest of their lives. Although they were separated by marriages, miles and circumstances, they continued to communicate by letters. When they were married, the weddings were four days apart. Stella and Gene Parrott were married December 23, 1911. Kate and Cally Loso were married on



Nellie Kate with six of her brothers—1906?

December 27, 1911. Ten months later, they each had their first child. I was born October 14, 1912, and Glenn Parrott was born October 21, 1912. Stella and Gene were often included in the Bratton family gatherings.

Another teacher that Kate had was Stella's older sister, Beulah. Kate never finished through eighth grade because of weather or sickness. Most of the students missed a lot of days in school so the teachers just started them over again or where they were when they missed classes. Kate, like a lot of her classmates, taught herself by reading different books of different subjects.

As she was growing up, Grandma Carrie also taught her how to talk, dress, and act like a lady. You would think with all her brothers around, she would be a "tom boy"—but no! Grandma Carrie taught the boys to treat Kate and all girls like "ladies." They were to speak softly, act with modesty, and dress appropriately. Grandma Carrie was a very wise mother.

They could not afford a lot of dresses for Kate, but Grandma Carrie was a seamstress before she married, so she made all of Kate's clothes and gave them feminine

Continued on page 4

In this issue ---

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| News & Notes | Pg. 2 |
| Spotlight | Pg. 3 |
| A Family Resemblance? .. | Pg. 5 |
| Names & Faces | Pg. 6 |
| Bits 'n Pieces | Pg. 7 |
| Puzzle | Pg. 8 |

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

Howard Peter Carstensen, son of Peter & Florence Mae (McCannon) Britt, passed away on Saturday, July 24, in Davenport, IA. He was the last of his generation in the Anna Mae Bratton McElroy line. He is survived by two daughters, **Joan Tracy**, of Woodbridge, VA; and **Patricia Lynn Carstensen**, of Bettendorf, IA. His wife, Gladys, passed away last December.

* * *



Congratulations to **Sherrie Lynn Ruth and Cecil Robert Wilson** who were united in marriage on August 21 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Greeley, CO. Sherrie is the daughter of **Glenn G. and Loretta Ruth** and the granddaughter of **Elizabeth Bratton Ruth**. (See photo on page 6.)

* * *

Earl and Shirley Bratton were pleased to have their daughter, **Sandra**, and her two youngest, **Matt and Laura Schwahn**, visit July 21- Aug. 3, from Wisconsin. Sandra is now working in Chipewa Falls for Headstart.

* * *

Barry Bratton, Earl and Shirley's son, just got transferred from Moffat AFB to Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station, and flew to New Zealand in August, and then to Antarctica. The crew landed on the ice in -52-degree weather, to take deliver supplies, etc. They will be going back in October, for a 5-6 month tour. Brrrrr!

* * *

Jim and Karen Loso are looking forward to retirement years. Jim is presently building a pole barn for their RV's, etc., on their property near Cle-Elum by the Yakima River. Next spring they plan to tear down the cabin, and will build a new home on the property after selling their present home.

* * *

Derek Loso (a son of Jim and Karen Loso) is now working for Channel 7 News in the Seattle, Washington, area. He is floor director and also does some make up and set design. Things are looking great for him right now.

Maryan Bratton has returned to her home in Renton, WA, from a two-month vacation in Florida and Indiana, where she visited her two sons and families. Sounds like she had a wonderful time!

* * *

Jeff and Linda (Pantone) Hynes thankfully announce the Lord's blessing on their family with the birth of their daughter, **Stephanie Grace Hynes**. Stephanie was born August 18 and weighed 7#, 7 oz. She was 19 1/2" long. Congratulations, Jeff and Linda!



(By the way, this makes *two* grand babies for **Lou Bratton Pantone** to "dote" on!)

* * *

Don Wixom is now managing a Christian rock group called "Judah." If this group ever comes to your town for a concert, make sure to see them. By the way, the group has great microphones and equipment! You may remember Don from the 1991 reunion ...he works at American music in Caldwell, Idaho. (Right across the street from McDonalds—grin!)

* * *

Becky Klein Ryan has a new job and home location. She is now working at the World Financial Trade Center Building in New York City. Her apartment is just a few blocks from Greenwich Village, and says she likes being in the big city. Her new address: 17 Stuyvesant Oval #12-B, New York, NY 10009.

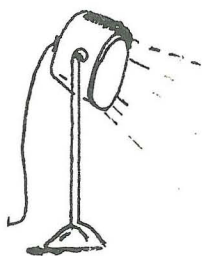
* * *

Forrest and Sandra (MacKenzie)-Cioppa are in the process of building a new home. They are pouring concrete at this printing, and figure they'll be putting in many more months of hard work on it. They plan to do most of the finishing work themselves. Sandra says it's a "new and interesting challenge."

Their children are all busy in high school or college or in the working world. **Emily**, 15, is following in her grandparent's footsteps in the line of acting and music. Sandra says she's a good dancer and singer and has recently been invited to join an exclusive group of competition performers. Congratulations, Emily!

* * *

YOU may not think there's much news in your family for this page, but you'd be surprised. Keep in touch with us, and update us often on your family life. ■



In the Spotlight...



**Shirley
Haigh
Thomas**

—Interview by
Jessica Goodman

A: I was born June 24, 1918 in Des Moines, Iowa. My father's name was Percival Haigh, my mother's name was Leila Bratton Haigh. My grandfather's name was Walter Bratton and my great grandfather's name was Thomas Jefferson Bratton.

Q: Who were your brothers and sisters?

A: Virginia (we always called her Jean) Knudsen, Tamzon Haigh Melos, and Thomas Walter Haigh.

Q: When did you get married and how did you meet your husband?

A: I attended a Christian Church (Disciples) church conference camp and Dick was there. We met at several church affairs and then in January, 1941, he was called into the Army and left for Louisiana. On July 21, 1941, I went down there and we were married in the Christian Church in Alexandria.

Q: How long was Dick in the service and what happened after that?

A: Five years, and then he came home and we lived with his parents while he went to college for a year and then on to study to receive his first-class FCC license. He was hired by WOC Radio and TV station in Davenport, Iowa, and he was there 32 years.

Q: How about you, grandma, what kind of work did you do?

A: When our three children were in Jr. and Sr. High I went to work as a secretary at an Electrical Contracting company.

Q: How many children do you have?

A: Lorraine, a teacher in Park Ridge, Illinois, who married Ron Perlman; Cynthia, a teacher in Scio Oregon (not teaching as of right now) who is married to John Goodman; and Richard, a lock tender at LeClaire, Iowa, who married Rev. Kathleen Thomas.

Q: How about grand children?

A: We have six: Timothy Thomas, 23 (he's in the Navy); Samantha, 18; Jessica, 18; Seana, 16; Julius, 15; and Benjamin, 16.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?

A: Dick and I sing in the church choir, we are both very active in church work. We play bridge, read, dance, and travel to see our loved ones. ■

Working/Rick Thomas



The following article was printed in July in The Leader, a Davenport, Iowa, area newspaper, and is re-typed here to fit into our column space. Rick is the son of Shirley and Dick Thomas.

THE JOB: Rick is a lock and dam operator for the Rock

Island District of the Corps of Engineers. He has worked for the agency 16 years and has been at Lock and Dam No. 14 near LeClaire for 12 years.

AT WORK: "[My job involves] operation of the locks and the dam and any maintenance that needs to be done. Wintertime, there are no boats going, so we're all doing maintenance and projects. March to December is navigation season. Then we have boats going through, and the main job then is putting them through the locks. So we're busy most of the night." Rick likes being outdoors but does not like the rotating shifts his job involves.

BIOGRAPHY: "Raised in Davenport, graduated from West High and Scott Community College. I started as an engineering technician with the St. Louis District of the Corps of Engineers and transferred around different places within the government."

RESIDENCE: Owns a house in Davenport.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT: "Putting my wife through seminary ... with three kids." [Ed note: Kathleen is now Associate Pastor of the First Christian Church in Moline, IL.]

COMMUNITY INFLUENCE: "I coach Dad's Club softball and soccer for kids." Involved in "church and work at my kids' school as a paid playground supervisor when I'm off (work) days."

GRIPE: "Rude people, inconsiderate driver, inconsiderate boaters; they're about like inconsiderate drivers. Having community activities planned on Sunday mornings ... when a lot of us people go to church. Why don't they plan them for later on in the day or Saturday? ■

Katie Bratton—

Continued from page 1

touches such as tucks, ruffles, ribbons, and crocheted edgings. Grandma Carrie taught Kate that a "lady" always wears a hat and gloves and carries a clean handkerchief when she dresses to go visiting or church, or social affairs.

Kate loved pretty things, and when her two older brothers were old enough to earn money they bought her Christmas presents. Two things she kept, and I still have, are a hand mirror, hairbrush and comb set in a pretty pink paper-covered box. They were white alabaster-type backs and handles. The other was two cardboard boxes covered with a padded very fine cotton or linen. On the cover is a hand-painted picture of a "Gibson Girl" wearing a big hat and shirt-waist blouse and jacket. One box is 6½" square for handkerchiefs, the other is 11½" X 4" for gloves.

Kate also loved hats! This photo shows Kate in one of her hats and a black blouse and skirt. The blouse is thin material showing a white camisole beneath, and I am sure it was trimmed in hand-crocheted lace, for she wore them for years. Uncle Philip's wife, Emma, was a milliner, and she made several hats for Kate. I remember going with her to Aunt Emma's house where she had one room with material, wire and all kinds of trimmings,



and she would have several hats all ready-made, or would make one of a certain color or design as her customers asked.

When Grandpa and family moved to Missouri, Kate was a pretty, demure teenager, as she had more girl companions. Then, the draught, ruined the crops and Eddie, Clair and Kate returned to Oakville, Iowa, from where they came, to find work, leaving the younger boys to help on the farm.

Now this is a bit of history, but at that time, George W. Gale II the descendant of one of the founders of Galesburg, Illinois,—and for whom it was named—owned thousands of acres of land from Galesburg west to the Mississippi river, and across on the Iowa side around Oakville. There was good, rich river bottom soil in that area. He hired overseers for certain areas, and James B. Loso was one of them at Oakville.

At that time, all of the farm work was done by horse-and-mule power, so it took lots of men to handle and drive them. Eddie and Clair were also hired along with dozens of other men. Also, these men had to be fed and have a place to sleep. There were "bunk houses" close to the overseer's house. (These were like army barracks with rows of beds.) The overseer's wife had to cook and serve the men, and wash their clothes and bedding, besides all the work a farmer's wife usually does; so she had to hire young women to help. Kate had plenty of experience, after growing up with seven brothers on a farm, so she was hired along with several other girls.

That was how and where she met her husband-to-be, Calvin H. Loso, or Cally as everyone called him—the overseer's youngest son. Cally and Kate were married at the home of Kate's great Aunt Nellie in Danville, Iowa. They started house-keeping in a little two-room house that Cally built after clearing an acre of timber, taking the trees to the saw-mill and having them

Who's Leading???

A man and his young son were climbing a mountain. They came to a place where the climbing was difficult and even dangerous. The father stopped to consider which way he should go. He heard the boy behind him say, "Choose the good path, Dad. I'm coming right behind you!"

sawed into lumber. As the Charles Bratton family had moved back to Illinois, on the Mississippi river bank across from Oakville, Iowa, where their little farm was surrounded on three sides by timber, I am sure he had plenty of help. (It was in this timber where Cally had built that first home and where they lived when I was born.)

They lived there approximately two years, then Cally wanted to go to work at the brick yards, so they moved to the little town of East Galesburg where the brick factory was located. They lived in three different houses there, the third one they bought. It was the only home they ever owned. It was in that little town my brother and I grew up and went to school.

Kate was content to be a housewife and mother, although living in a town was far from the farm life she had always known. Clair had decided to try working at the brick yards also, and moved into a little house close to Kate with a buddy of his. (They were bachelors, and would often come to eat their meals with Kate and her family.)

Then came the stock market crash of 1928, followed by the depression. Cally and Kate sold their home and moved back to Iowa, not far from Oakville, on a big farm in partnership with another farmer. The partnership ended in the Spring of 1934, and they moved to a smaller farm about a mile away. A couple of years later they moved back to Illinois. As it was often

Continued on page 5

Note A Family Resemblance?



Charles Bratton (1832-1880)
(Note this is a photo from a xerox-copy of the below listed book.¹)

Amazing look-alikes?! In comparing the photos above, there is a definite resemblance; yet Charles Bratton was in a collateral (non-direct) line and five generations removed from Robert.

This resemblance causes the question to come to mind: "Do the Bratton's have definite inherited characteristics?"

Take time to look at your family photos. Among some of the dominant features known of direct Bratton descendants are:

- Deep-set, clear-blue eyes & heavy eye brows
- Narrow nose bridge and a sharp, yet squarish, tip of the nose.
- Narrow lips
- Prominent "smile" or "expression" lines from nose to mouth.
- A strain of cousins with red hair comes into existence about the third generation.
- The "Bratton rib" is the bottom rib on the person's left side that protrudes out noticeably further than the other ribs.



Robert C. Bratton (1919-1987)

- Arms and fingers are often longer than most people's. When the arms are at the side, the tips of the fingers reach just a short distance (1-2") above the knee.

There are other features and characteristics commonly found, but how to explain some of these is also difficult. The further removed you are in your family from the "Bratton" surname, of course, the more the features will differentiate.

We have recently learned of a cousin who has one brown and one blue eye. It will be interesting to keep track of some of these features in future generations, now that we are aware of similarities.

Characteristically, a musical talent, as well as an artistic talent also runs in the family.

We hope that this list will enlighten you, as well as give your family some fun as you compare the traits of each other.

Incidentally, Charles Bratton was the son of Charles and Eliza Grumman Bratton, great grand child of Samuel Bratton who came from Ireland to Pennsylvania.¹

Robert C. Bratton was the son of William Edward and Beulah Resor Bratton, featured in the last issue of this newsletter.

Katie Bratton—

Cont'd from page 4

said, "Once a man gets the brick yard in his blood, he always goes back;" and Cally had it in his blood ... so he went back to the brickyard working at nights. They lived on a small farm, so he also did farm work in the day time. The last place they lived (for about 30 years) was about one mile South of Knoxville, Illinois.

Kate and Cally had moved so many times in their married life, I am sure Kate was often discouraged, but she never complained. She always made their home a happy, secure place, where friends and family were always welcome.

Kate fell and broke her hip in 1962. After that, her health began to fail—she had to use a walker, and it was hard for her to get around. The last year she was in a wheel chair, but she had always worked hard and was a strong-willed, determined lady, in a quiet sort of way. In November, 1967, Kate suffered a stroke and was taken to the hospital, but never regained consciousness. She died November 21—just 11 days before her 77th birthday.

Raised in a good Christian home, she had a deep faith and joined the Christian Apostolic church in Oakville, Iowa. The last years she did not get to attend church, but remained true to her faith.

When I asked her grand children what they remembered most about her, it was always something homey and comfortable. They remember staying overnight at Grandma's and her making pancakes and sausage for breakfast; playing in the tent Grandpa put up in the yard; hunting eggs in the hen house; riding the horses bare-back; and Grandma always cooking something good.

Kate was buried in the Bratton family lot at Greenmound Cemetery in Keithsburg, Illinois, near Charles and Carrie, her brother Earl and his wife, Edna. Later, her two brothers, Clair and Max and her husband Cally were laid to rest beside her.

...The unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, is of great worth in God's sight. -- I Peter 3:4 ■

¹ The Biographical Encyclopedia of the Juniata and Susquehanna Valleys of Pennsylvania, by John M. Stroup & Raymond Martin Bell. Film #0944764 LDS, pps. 552-3, 787.

NAMES & FACES 1993

Recent family photos we've received and are sharing to help you become acquainted with other Bratton families.

"Home is the most popular, and will be the most enduring of all earthly establishments." - Channing Pollock



The Dave Cohea family: *Susan, standing. (L-R) Maggie, D.J., Meganne & Dave.* (Photo taken November, '92.) Maggie is the daughter of Robert & Florence Oneta Bratton Klein.

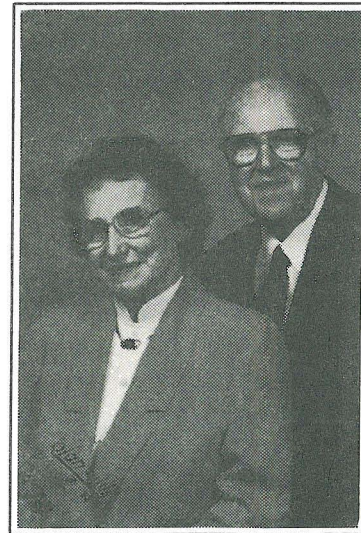


Cecil and Sherri (Ruth) Wilson, on their wedding day, August 21, 1993. Sherri is the granddaughter of Elizabeth Bratton Ruth.



The Bob Bratton family: *Gary & Pat (standing in back) Matt, Greg, Gail, Maryan, & Janie.* Gary & Greg are grandchildren of Ed & Beulah Bratton.

At right: Glenn and Jane Parrott on their 55th wedding anniversary. (Actually part of the Resor family, but we saw it fitting to put their photo in this issue because they were mentioned in the cover story.) Glenn is the son of Gene & Stella (Resor) Parrott.



BORING WEEKEND BARBEQUE IN THE PLANNING ...

How would you like to get better acquainted with names and faces? All Bratton fans are invited to the Boring Weekend Barbeque to be held toward the end of July or 1st part of August, 1994. You can send any questions or comments to Jeannie Wixom, PO Box 421, Boring, OR 97009. Keep a look out for further information in the *Bratton Bulletin*.

BRATTON REUNION 1995 ...

As of this printing, two sights have been put on the top of the possibility list for our 1995 reunion. Both are in the Colorado Springs, CO., area. Keith has received many fliers and MUCH information to sort through. We appreciate his undertaking in this effort. Our committee will be keeping in touch with each other and keep updates in this newsletter.

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is a column for questions (Q), comments (C), answers (A), or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

October is Family History Month

Family History Month originated by Monmouth County Genealogy Club in Freehold, New Jersey, and is quickly catching on with many states proclaiming it so. Why not set a day or a week aside from your regular family schedule and enjoy learning about your family history. Here's some things you can do together as a family:

Draw Your Family Tree - fill in a form and illustrate it or draw one in your own way.

Dress as Your ancestor - From 1950's poodle skirts to ethnic costumes of homeland.

Cook/Bake a Family Favorite - get a recipe that your ancestors might have, make and share it. How about preparing it in the same fashion as your ancestors did (without the use of today's time-saving devices).

Visit and Interview Relatives - Make a list of questions, besides facts, fet opinions, humor, stories, traditions, whatever makes ancestors real.

Make a Time Line - Use long paper, draw center line: historic dates on one side, family dates on the other (births, marriages, milestones).



Label and Organize Photographs - What a good time to get organized! Sit down with your family and look over the old photographs. Make sure names, dates, and places are written on each.

Use acid-free ink and materials for preservation purposes.

Write Your Own Life Story - Family history begins with YOU!

Correction: I'd like to blame it on the computer, but guess I can't. In the last issue, the birthdate for Esther Helen Bratton (my mom) was written as the 19th. Her birthday is May 27, 1924. --rm

* * *

Don Wixom sends in his new "coined" word: Nepling, pronounced nep'ling, noun. (from Latin nepos, nephew, or neptis, neice, and suffix ling.) *A niece or nephew without respect to gender.* In a sentence: Don Wixom has fourteen neplings. Don't be surprised to see this word used in future issues of this newsletter.

* * *

Ben Jones is working diligently on the new family tree of the Charles Bratton family. (This one will be like the one made in 1980, but include all the new births, etc., since that time.) If you are interested in having a copy, please send \$3.00 to: Benjamin Jones, PO Box 336, Durand, IL 61024

* * *

(We find the following bit of news timely because of the cover story ...) We hear from Laurie Bluedorn that the Greenmound Cemetery in Keithsburg, IL, was spared during the flooding in August, when a dike broke, deluging the city with water; but we understand that the city of Keithsburg may be condemned and moved due to the long-standing water. If anyone has further word on this, please keep us posted.

* * *

Do you have special memories of Christmas? We are debating as to whether we should put out a Christmas issue of this newsletter this year. It will depend upon the response in form of memories and photos. Most of the photos up through 1960 have been used, so we prefer recent photos or photos of the '70's and 80's related to the Bratton family. **Deadline is Dec. 1!**

A Child's View Of Grandma and Grandpa



A little "bit of wisdom" as seen through a child's eyes

A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes other people's kids.

A grandfather is a man grandmother. He likes to go on walks with kids and talk about fishing and things like that.

Grandmas don't have to do anything but be there. They're old, and so they shouldn't play hard or run. They let you ride the "pretend horse" at Kmart ... and they always have plenty of quarters.

When they take you for walks, they always stop for things like caterpillars and pretty leaves. Grandmas never say, "Hurry up".

Usually they are fat—but not too far to tie your shoes. They wear glasses and funny under wear. They can do neat things like take out their teeth.

They can always answer questions like, "Why do dogs hate cats?" and "How come God isn't married?"

They don't talk baby talk like visitors do, because they know it's hard to understand.

When they read to you, they don't skip. And they never mind reading the same story over again.

Everybody should try to have a grandma or grandpa, because they're the only grown-ups who seem to always have time for you.

-- copied from an old clipping, original source unknown



AUTUMN CHALLENGE

To find the phrase in the solution, fill in as many words as you can using the *Definitions*. Transfer these letters onto the *Solution* dashes according to matching numbers. Work back and forth from solution to *words* to find possible clues.

Definitions:

Wealthy

Masculine

October Holiday

Golden Anniversary

HARD
Soft-shelled clam

Innumerable

Not her

Words:

32 24 12 29 33 5 16 23 18 27

22 6 13 39 34

4 36 19 39 9 11 26 3 13

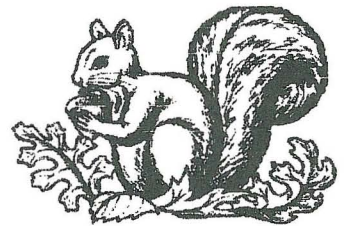
35 28 17 41 25 44 8 2

45 1 21 31 43 15 16

37 40 7 42 6 14

30 38 20

(Answers will be found in the next issue.)



Solution:

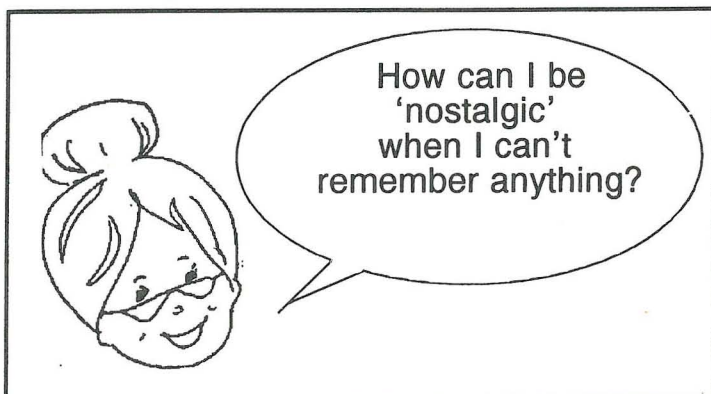
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34
35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

The Bratton Bulletin

Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction requested

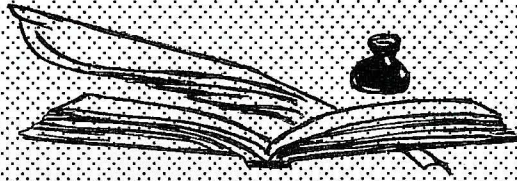
Granny B. says ...



When does your subscription expire? Check your label.

BRATTON BULLETIN ISSUES FROM 1991-1993

| ISSUE | DATE | MAIN TOPICS |
|-----------------|------------------|---|
| First Issue | July 1991 | Reunion highlights |
| Vol. 1, Issue 2 | October 1991 | Naming newsletter In memory - Oneta Klein |
| Vol. 1, Issue 3 | January 1992 | New Name Bratton Beginnings |
| Vol. 1, Issue 4 | Apr-Jun 1992 | Bratton Beginnings, Part II Bratton Branches Chart - Part I |
| Vol. 2, Issue | July-Sept 1992 | Bratton Serves in Gulf War A Trip to Grandpa's Chart - Part II |
| Vol. 2, Issue 2 | Oct- Dec. 1992 | Of Wills & Wars & Weddings -- Thomas Jefferson Bratton Chart - Part III |
| Vol. 2, Issue 3 | Jan - Mar 1993 | Epoch of the CE Bratton Family Chart - Part IV |
| Vol. 2, Issue 4 | Apr - Jun 1993 | Philip Bratton-- Entrepreneur Mysterious Bratton Horse 1993 Reunion Plans |
| Vol. 3, Issue 1 | Jul - Sept. 1993 | It was the Best of Times, The Worst of Times (about William Edward Bratton, my grandpa) 1993 Reunion Highlights (4 pages of photos) |



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Special Christmas Issue

Winter 1992



The response to our suggestion of a special photo edition has been remarkable! As we have received many wonderful notes and photos, we have decided to send it out for this holiday season.

Every family has it's problems, but our heritage is important in many ways. We want to be able to appreciate ours this Christmas, when hearts and minds are traditionally turned toward home and family.

Two pages have been allotted for "old" photos—most taken before 1960—of each of the three families of Allen and Julia Bratton, who had children. We do not have any photos of their daughter, Mattie, and her husband, James McCall, or of their foster daughter, Rosa. We do not know if James or Clyde were ever married or fathered children. If anyone has further information on these people, please let us know.

Some of the families may not be represented in this issue. Many times, families have passed down photos and those obtaining them

do not know or recognize the people. We trust that as we get better acquainted with each other we'll be able to recognize each others faces, and maybe find out about those "treasures" hidden in attics, or wherever.

Following are some memories sent to us for this special volume. Sit back and relax and enjoy this issue!

A good way to bring back the good times is to take a walk down "memory lane."

Jeannie Wixom and Kay Tira remember the Christmas of 1984 ... their first Christmas without our mom (Esther). They spent the holiday together in Montana. Jeannie and Don arrived on the 23rd, and they were just waiting for Christmas Day, visiting and getting "antsy" when someone suggested "Let's open just one present tonight and the others on Christmas." They giggled guiltily while opening the present; but enjoyed it

so much it was decided to open another ... and another ... until all the presents were opened. When they got up on Christmas morning, there was no excitement, and nothing to look forward to. Jeannie says "Just ask Kay, I think that was our worst Christmas ever ... and it was a hard lesson to learn."

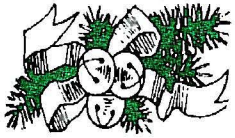
"I guess the Christmas most special to Shirley and myself would be Christmas of 1944. We had been separated for about a year due to WWII. I completed my tour of duty as a pilot in VMB-413 in the Solomon Islands of the South Pacific and was on my way back to the States. We were flown by military transport to Hawaii where we were delayed for almost two weeks because they were shipping orchids back to the States. We finally ended up sailing back on a converted Matson liner which arrived in San Francisco two days before Christmas. I had wired Shirley from Hawaii to meet me in Los Angeles. We met at the train station then hustled down to San Diego where we spent Christmas Eve sleeping on cots in the lobby of the U.S. Grant Hotel, along with dozens of others who could not get rooms in the Hotel because of the Holiday and the War."

—Earl & Shirley Bratton

Continued on page 4

Wishing you a joyful holiday season!



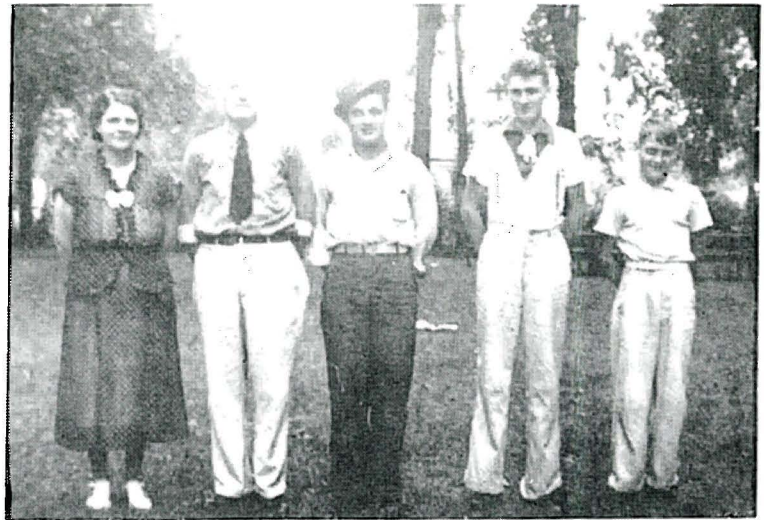


Descendents of Thomas Jefferson Bratton

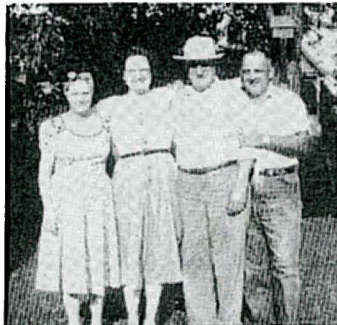
Thomas and Minerva Jane Sisk Bratton had 6 children who lived:
Anna Mae, Walter, Henry, Arthur, Maude, and Minnie.



At left: Elizabeth Bratton, daughter of Arthur Bratton in her beaver collar coat, brown velvet hat and new purse. (Note the shoes!)



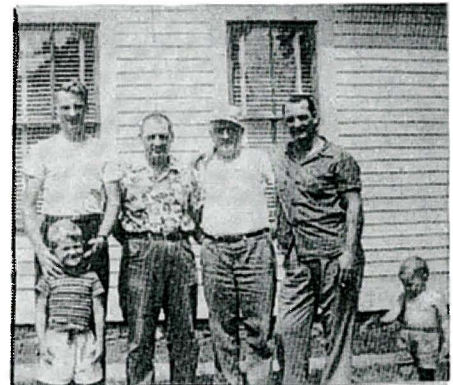
Above: Part of the Arthur Bratton Family taken in 1938. (L-R) Robert, Earl, Estel, Arthur, and Naomi.



Naomi, Elizabeth, Arthur, & Estel Bratton, taken in Burlington, LA, 1955



Iva Delia Shafer Bratton, First wife of Arthur, and mother of Elizabeth, & Dorothy Bratton.



Earl & Gary, Estel, Arthur, Robert and Gregory Bratton taken around 19 ?



Henry Bratton, taken in LaCross, Wisconsin. year?



The Dorothy Bratton Martin (Jeffers) Family: Iris, Dorothy, Viola, Earl, Kay Pat. taken about 1945.



Minnie Bratton Gaylor, taken 1966



Edward Daniel & Anna Mae Bratton McCannon with four oldest children: Webster, Florence, Myrtle & Edna



Howard Peter Carstensen at age 24 (Florence's son) with Bride, Gladys Adrian (taken in 1941).



Joe & Lillian Carstensen Schebler Wedding. Howard P. Carstensen Best Man



Florence Mae McCannon Britt (age and date unknown)



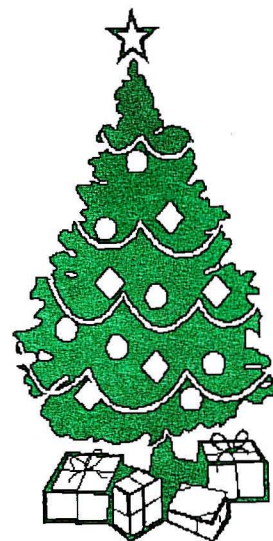
Edward Daniel McCannon with sons Webster (oldest) and George



Lillian Mae Carstensen Schebler (taken in the 1930's) age early 20's



Florence McCannon Britt age 85 (taken 1979)





Descendents of John R. Bratton

John R. and Anna Freel Bratton had 3 children: George L., Elmer B., and Norman



George L. & Sarah R. Bratton, date?



Master George L. Bratton,
taken about 1910?



Rachel Bower Bratton (future wife
of Elmer). Taken before she was
married, possibly 18 years old.

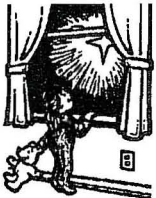
Memories—

(Continued from page 1)

"Just a few precious Christmases Jim and I will always remember in our first years of marriage, were spent at Nellie and Ragnar's house, with the whole family there including Max and Clair Bratton, and of course Calvin and Kate [Loso]. Then in 1964 we moved west, so we never got to spend Xmas there again. But of course we do have our own family traditions out here at Christmas."

—Jim & Karen Loso

"I remember (I was about six years old) mom and dad telling us we had to go to bed; but before we went to bed we had to put pie and milk out for Santa. Mother tucked us in and I got up after wards and waited to see Santa. It was snowing and we looked out



the window and we are SURE we heard noises on the roof. The next morning the milk and pie was gone and we just knew Santa had come.

The only time I really remember asking for anything for Christmas was when I was about ten, and living at the Children's school. I remember, because Prince Charles had just been born and I wanted a bride's doll and what I received was a used doll. ... But I'll get it one of these days!"

—Viola Herzman



Children of Elmer & Rachel Bratton:
(L-R) Anna (Hiltten), Alice (Miller), Ethel (Rassi) date?

FAMILY

A family is love
shown in so many ways--
In kind understanding, comfort and praise,
In a home full of laughter,
hearts full of caring,
In warmth and affection,
good times and sharing,
In all of the things happy memories
are made of--
In so many ways, a family is love.
---author unknown

GREAT GRANDMOTHER'S PORTRAIT

By Judy (Hladky) Sheridan

When you look at me, Granddaughter,
 what do you see,
 Just a face from the past,
 or are you seeing me?
 I too had a life,
 I laughed and I cried.
 I worked and I played,
 I lived and I died.



But time must go on,
 from this world all must pass,
 The seasons, the flowers,
 the trees and the grass
 Will all fade away but their memory remains,
 It brings joy to the new life
 and eases the pain.

For each life has a purpose,
 a reason for being
 And each turn of events holds
 a lesson with meaning
 The lessons we learned as the years melt away
 Give us strength in our hearts
 as we face each new day.

But what of my life
 when my children are gone?
 When there's no one else left,
 will my memory live on?
 Is this all that remains, just a portrait of me?
 Will you open the door
 so that others might see?

Will you learn of my life
 though it seems out of place?
 Will you learn of this person
 and not just her face?
 Yes, it's up to you, now,
 if my memory will stay.
 If you keep it alive it will not slip away.

My life was so short when my maker I met
 and I know that such sadness we try to forget
 And that life must go on by all those left behind;
 so when sorrow had passed I was put from their
 minds.

But through you, dear Granddaughter,
 may my story be told?
 All my life is right here
 if the pieces you'll mold.
 Through your pen and your hand
 you'll be able to say
 All the things I'd have said, had I been there today.

You can tell of the hardships,
 the troubles, the strife,
 You can tell of the love
 and the joys of my life.
 Of the hard work and toil met in paving the way
 For the next generation,
 for a brighter today.

Of the most tender feelings when lullabies sung
 from the lips of a mother,
 reached the ears of her young,
 Of the sadness and sorrow of saying 'goodbye'
 And of lessons I learned from each tear that I cried.
 Of my undying faith in the Lord up above
 And the peace that I shared in His presence and love.

And then, dear Granddaughter,
 when you are all through
 You can look at my portrait from
 a new point of view.
 For by fitting the pieces of my life into place,
 I'll be more than a portrait,
 I'll be more than a face.

Then as time passes by
 and the years slip away,
 Though my portrait may fade,
 my memory will stay.

(Note: Judy's great grandmother, Olive Winchell Burch, died in 1901 at the age of 29 due to complications of child birth. A portrait of her grandmother inspired her to write this poem as to what it might say if it could talk. Judy is a genealogy correspondent with Ruth Mickelson on Prodigy Services.)

Copyright, 1992 used by permission

*Peace, Joy
 & Love*

Descendents of Charles Edward Bratton



Charles & Ida Coonrod Bratton had a son Philip before Ida's death. Charles then married Carrie Louise Cabeen and had 7 children: Wm. Edward, Clair, Nellie "Kate", Earl, Frank "Dale", Ernest and Max.

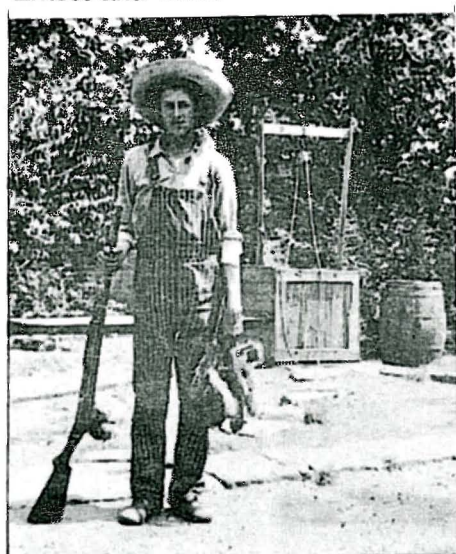


Back Row (L-R): Dale, Clair, Earl, Ernie, Eddie. Middle row (L-R): Philip, Emma, Katie Loso, Max, Beulah. Seated: Charles holding grandson Charles Loso, Carrie with Nellie Loso by her, and "grandpa" W.T. Cabeen.



Clair & Oneta Bratton—no date

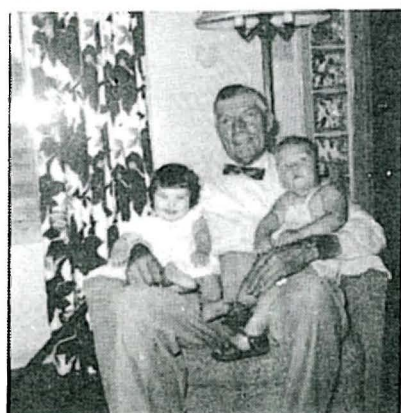
Below: Philip (on right) and a friend wading.



Clair Bratton and a 'prize' squirrel. Taken near Rockville, MO



(L-R): Maryan, Mary, and Esther Bratton (Wixom). Taken Dec. 24, 1950



William "Ed" Bratton with first two grandchildren, Ruth (Wixom) and Gary Bratton, taken August 18, 1952 in Ellensburg, WA.



Group from around Rockville, MO., at picnic in Monegaw Springs, about 1907. Seated 3rd & 4th from Left: Eddie & Mae (Brannon) Bratton, 6th from Left, in black skirt & blouse, is Katie Bratton. Standing from Left 2nd, Clair Bratton, 4th, Earl Bratton. Others just friends.



Photo at left: (L-R) Dale and Ernie Bratton and Gene Parrott "goofing off" at the Wade place near New Boston, IL., around 1920.

Photo at right: Lesley Earl Bratton and wife Edna Brown Crose, married August 23, 1928. Taken at Carlson studio in Aledo, IL.



Don Bratton and puppy, taken about 1930.



(L-R) Great Grandfather C.H. (Cally) Loso, Father, Jim Loso holding son Kevin, Grandfather Charles Loso — 4 generations, February, 1958.



Above: Charles E. Loso, age 17

Photo at right: Nellie Kate Bratton Loso, taken about 1945.

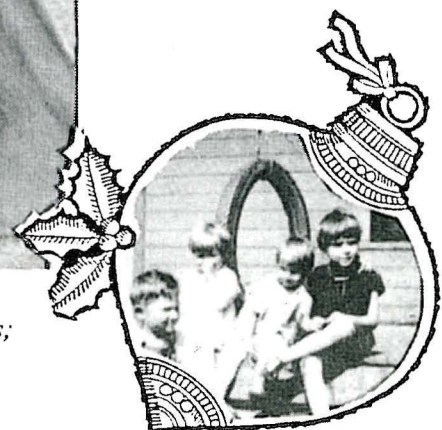


The Frank "Dale" Bratton family— Standing: Zella, Grady Walton, Louise, Dorothy, Keith, Barbara "Babs" and boys "K.D." and David. Sitting: Dale and Genie (Resor). Bratton.



(L-R) Blanch Carlson, 11 years; Ray Loso, 8 years; Alfreda Carlson, 6 years; Jim Loso, 10 years. Taken summer of 1949 at C.H. Loso farm south of Knoxville, IL.

Below: Taken October, 1926 (L-R) Bratton "double cousins"—Keith, age 5; Zella, age 2; Esther, age 2, and Mary, age 6.



Viola Herzman (daughter of Dorothy Bratton Jeffers) writes ...“It’s getting Thanksgiving time, there are zillions of pumpkins, so I thought I’d share a wonderful recipe for Pumpkin Bread. I make it all the time and give it as Christmas gifts. I’ve been making it for about 20 years...Hope you enjoy! I never sift!!! More work...”

PUMPKIN BREAD

From the files of Viola Herzman
(Makes 3 loaves)



2 1/2 cups flour

1 1/2 tsp salt

2/3 cup water

3 cups sugar

1 tsp nutmeg

2 cups pumpkin

1 cup nuts

2 tsp soda

4 eggs

1 tsp cinnamon

1 cup oil

Combine:

Sift dry ingredients, including sugar. Make a well and add remaining ingredients; beat well until smooth. Flour and grease 3 loaf pans or tins. Bake one hour at 350 degrees. Cool 10 minutes and remove from pans. (This is best with fresh pumpkin. Also, I don't flour, I put paper in bottom of loaf pan.)



The Bratton Bulletin

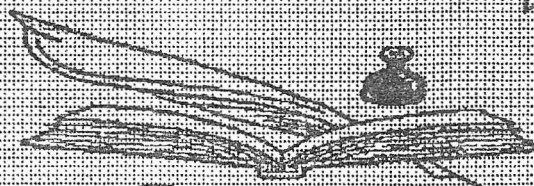
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested

Special Edition



When does your subscription expire? Check your mailing label.



The Bratton Bulletin

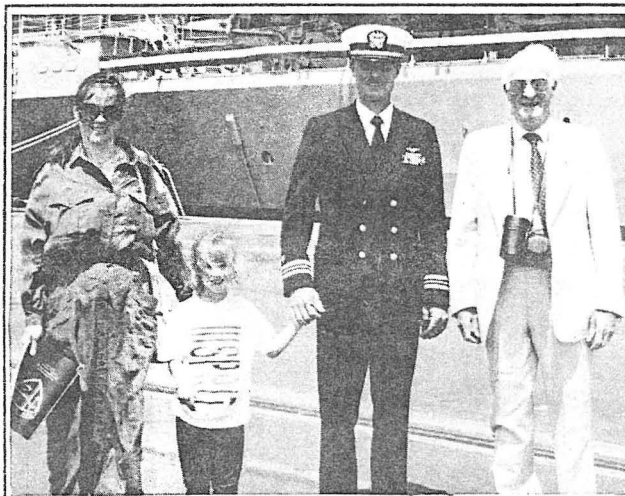
Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

Vol. 2, Issue 1

July - September 1992

Bratton serves in Gulf War

Barry C. Bratton (Family line: Allen, Thomas, Arthur, Earl, Barry) was Lt. Commander serving on the U.S.S. Midway, as Chief Flight Deck Officer, in charge of all take offs during the Gulf War.



L-R: Wife, Cheryl, daughter, Kimberly, Barry and his father, Earl A. Bratton, Taken April 11, 1992 at Decommissioning of USS Midway

This ship was the command ship for all boats in the gulf, and residence during that time for the Admiral in charge of all Navy operations.

The USS Midway (CB-41) is America's last World War II-era aircraft carrier. It was decommissioned at Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, California, after 46 years of Naval service. More than 200,000 members of the Navy-Marine Corps team have served aboard the Midway during her career in operations, ranging from Vietnam War to Desert Storm.

The ship will be "moth balled" most likely in Bremerton, Washington sometime this summer.

Barry Bratton is now stationed at Moffat Naval Air Station,

just south of San Francisco, where he is Lt. Commander (VP-31) for P-3 Patrol Squadron, training officers just prior to going over seas.

A TRIP TO GRANDPA'S

Nellie Carlson retells an additional story that happened before Allen Wilson Bratton passed away. Her mom, Nellie Kate, Uncle Clair, and Grandma Carrie had each told her the story. (Eddie had stayed at home with the other grandparents.)

"If you look back at dates in our family, you will see my mother, Katie, was born December 2, 1890. Great Grandpa Allen Bratton died 18 days later, on December 20, 1890, from

cancer. He knew he was dying and he wanted to see his first grand daughter (he had several grand sons and had seen them). When Mom was about a week old, they bundled her and Grandma Carrie up, put them on the sled and hitched the horse to it. Then Grandpa Charles drove and an Uncle and Clair ran along by the side, and started out across the river on the ice. (They lived on the Iowa side of the river by Oakville and Great Grandpa Allen lived on the Illinois side near Keithsburg.) When they got out midway where the current was strong and the ice was thinner, the horse broke through.

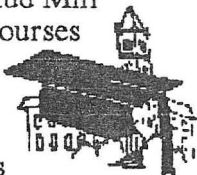
Grandpa Charles always carried a hunting knife, so he took it and cut the tugs and let the horse go and pulled the sled back on solid ice. At the same time, Clair—2 years old—had fallen in when the horse was thrashing around and the uncle reached down and grabbed his coat collar and pulled him out. They got his wet clothes off and bundled him on the sled with Grandma and Carrie and the baby. Then Grandpa pulled the sled and the uncle pushed from behind and they made it the rest of the way across the river without any more trouble.

They stayed all night and it got colder—making the river freeze more—so they made it home alright the next day. Of course, the horse drowned." ■

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

Congratulations are extended to the following high school graduates in the family:

- **Scott Mickelson** (son of Carl & Ruth Wixom Mickelson) graduated June 13, Sam Barlow High School, Gresham, OR. He is presently working at Harris Stud Mill in Boring. His plans include courses at the community college, possibly in electronic engineering.
- **Geoff Bratton** (son of James & Barbara Bratton) graduated in June from Hesperia High School in Hesperia, CA. He is signed up for 5 years in the Army as a linguist for military intelligence, speaking Japanese, German, and English and also uses sign language.



Jami Tira (daughter of Joe & Kay Wixom Tira) competed in the Miss American Pre-teen Pageant as an Oregon State finalist on May 24. Although she didn't receive a title, she has a trophy and banner for keepsakes of this memorable event. (What

an exciting way to celebrate a 10th birthday!)

Kevin & Lisa (Pantone) Garland have changed addresses: 6521 Braxton Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805-2518

Jeff & Linda (Pantone) Hynes have purchased a home and now reside at 1203 Elizabeth St., Pasadena, CA 91104

Another new address: **Keith D. Bratton, II**, 4215 Teal St.#29, Bakersfield, CA 93304.

Joe & Kay (Wixom) Tira are relocating, where Joe will pastor the local Church of God congregation: E. 509 First, Deer Park, WA 99006.

Alan and Alfreda Rulis celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 17 ... but "opened" their gift a little early. The present: A trip to Scotland! They said it was beautiful, and had a good time. They later visited Alfreda's mom (Nellie Carlson) and Don & Carol Sue

Jones, and had a "packing & moving party" ... Nellie's old home has sold.

Katelynn Lauren Rogers was born four weeks early—but very healthy—on Thursday, April 9. She weighed 6# 4½ oz. and was 18½" long. Proud parents are **Brian & Tammy (Shaver) Rogers**.



Keith and Babs Bratton, granddaughter **Kim** and a friend, spent a week on the California coast at the Redwood Christian Park Family Camp. They took their RV and enjoyed a restful week.

David & Maggie (Klein) Cohea have built a home and are now working on the yard and inside of the house. Their new address is: 4925 E. Adobe, Mesa, AZ 85205

Earl Bratton (Arthur Bratton line) is recuperating from recent Rotator Cuff shoulder surgery. He and **Shirley** report that grandson, **Brian** (son of Richard), and wife **Blia** have given them their first Great granddaughter, **Amanda Kay**.

Richard Lehnert (son of Anna Bratton Hilten) and his wife, **Jane**, had a "fine time" on their recent vacation. Traveling 6200 miles, they took pictures and admired views at such places as Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, Sequoia Park, Yosemite, Snoqualmie Falls, Yellowstone, Black Hills, Badlands, etc. But they say "No place looks better than home after so long away."

On May 31, **Rev. Leon Pomeroy** was ordained an Elder at the United Methodist North Indiana Annual Conference. This was a culmination of eight years of work, during which time he obtained a Master of Divinity degree from Anderson School of Theology. Ordained a Deacon in 1989, he and his wife, **Barbara (Wixom)** and four children are pastoring a rural church in Mechanicsburg, IN.

Zella Bratton Walton flew to Alaska, accompanied by her granddaughter, **Cheryl**, (who was returning home) and spent 11 days near Anchorage with **Wanda (Walton) & Gene Poelman & family**. Grady was in good care while she was away. Zella will also visit her college Alma Mater in Illinois this month.

NAMES & FACES

1992

Recent family photos
we've received to share
with other Bratton
families.

Send in *your* family
photo for our next
issue.

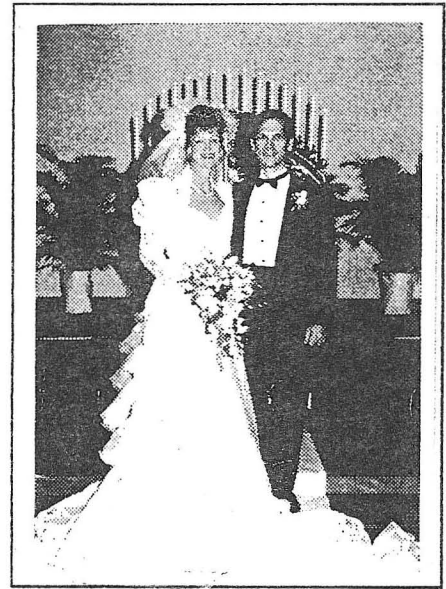
"The Best Thing To Hold Onto In This World Is Each Other."



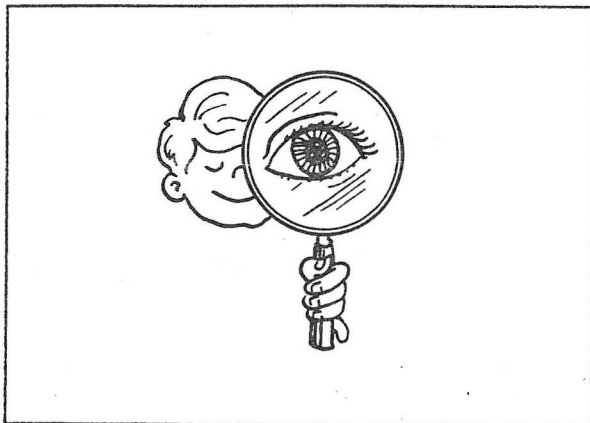
Elizabeth Bratton Ruth
(Daughter of Arthur Allen
Bratton)



The Carl Mickelson Family
Scott, Carl, Ruth & Andrew
(Ruth is the daughter of Norval
& Esther Bratton Wixom)

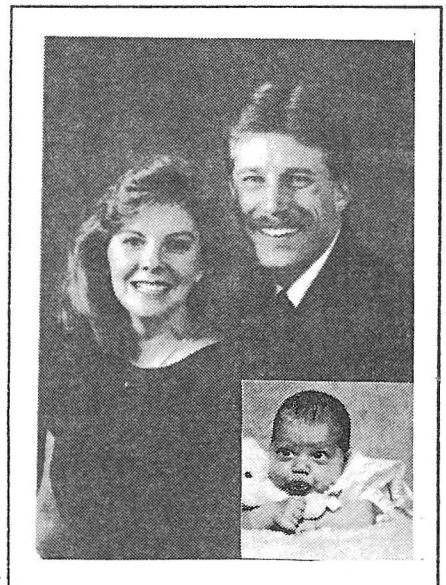


Gary & Pat Bratton
(Gary is the son of Robert &
Maryan Bratton)



LOOKING FOR YOU!

Send us your family photo—new or old
(We're collecting "old-time" photos for a
photo layout in a future issue. All photos will
quickly be returned to you in good condition.)



The Brian Rogers Family:
Tammy, Brian & Katelynn
(Tammy is granddaughter of
Nellie Carlson).

HERE'S TO RELATIVES!

I'm one who holds my Bratton heritage very dear. Some of my fondest memories circle around times with my cousins, Greg and Gary Bratton (sons of Bob and Maryan Randall Bratton)—Bob being a brother to my mom, Esther. Greg and Gary were always fun to be with and full of activity. I remember carp-spearing, air-car rides, dune buggies, an attempt at making fireworks, etc. and they were always doing some sort of craft (Obvious "legacy-things" of Uncle Bob). We didn't have a lot of times together, but the few we did have were really special. Uncle Bob and Aunt Maryan were always kind to us. And they always made sure Greg and Gary brushed their teeth. (*Why do I remember that?*)

Aunt Mary (mom's sister) and Uncle Duke (Heimbigner) were usually in the same area, or our get-togethers involved them, too—which was GREAT. They were able to make us feel special. Aunt Mary did sweet things—like sending Christmas gifts for all seven of the kids in the family, or like letting one or two of us at a time spend a week with her. She helped me sew a dress at one visit, taking me shopping for the fabric and pattern first, and seeing the project through to completion. She was always a favorite to me. I think she said her Aunt Florence Resor was like that to her.

So many years have passed and miles have come between us. But now we are in the Pacific Northwest and have had opportunity to see each other again. Mom is gone now. So is Uncle Bob. And the loss has been a heavy one. But times spent with Mary, Duke and Maryan have become even more precious because of the realization of brevity of life.

I hadn't been able to be involved in any reunions, since I was always at one end of the nation when the reunion was at the other—or because I didn't keep in touch to hear of them happening, or because I didn't have the money at the time—my loss. I finally attended my first Bratton Reunion the year it was held in Helena,

Montana ('89). What fun! Zella and Grady Walton, and Dot and Sam Naseem (cousins to my mom) were all special memory-makers for me. My 13th birthday was in Helena during a visit with them. (My gift was a pair of panties that I had to open at the dinner table in front of "all those people").

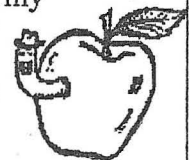
Last year I got to attend the reunion held in Boring, Oregon. It was so much fun to see people that I had met for the first time two years previously. New people to love!

This newsletter thing has added to the fun. Hearing from people we are related to, but don't really know, opens up a new area of life. And again, realizing the brevity of our years, I'm enjoying these opportunities. Here's to RELATIVES!!

--Kay Wixom Tira

ONE BAD APPLE DON'T SPOIL THE WHOLE BUNCH...

"My mother loves crafts and took great pride in the family tree she had made. It was a green tree on which each family member had an apple with his or her name painted on it. When my sister got divorced, I wondered if my mother would remove the ex-husband's apple. She didn't. She just painted a worm where his name had been."



--Shannon Livingston

©1989 by the Reader's Digest Assn., Inc.

Reprinted with permission from the January 1990 Reader's Digest.

Corrections from April Issue:

- Page 2 - Spelling correction: Brittney (no "a")
- Descendent Chart - these folks are alive & well:
 - Glenn George Ruth (1937-)
 - Tamara Jean Ruth Yoder (1960-)
 - Sherrie Ruth (1969-)
 - Dorothy Jane Bratton (1916-)

Please note these corrections, and let us know of any others that may need to be made.

The following chart continues from the last issue with descendants of Allen Wilson and Julia Ann Trusler Bratton, going by generation (0-7). Beginning letter corresponds with those on the "Bratton Branches" Chart in the April/June '92 issue. Key: + = Spouse, : = child, * = married within family. Again, please notify us of any corrections or additions so we can have a correct family history.

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Q | John R. Bratton (1850-1891) | | | | | | | | | |
| : | +Anna Elizabeth Freil Bratton (1857-1908) | | | | | | | | | |
| : | : | Etta M. Bratton (1873-1873) | | | | | | | | |
| : | : | James L. Bratton (1875-1877) | | | | | | | | |
| : | : | George Lewis Bratton (1876-1927) | | | | | | | | |
| : | : | +Sarah Rosabell Johnson Bratton (1885-1948) | | | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | George Lewis Bratton II (1909-1976) | | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | +Mary Haben Barrington Bratton (b. 1917) | | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | Mary Margaret Bratton Ischer (1955-) | | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | +William Ischer | | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | Amy Michelle Ischer | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | Lewis Scott Ischer | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | Margaret Olive Bratton (b. 1910) | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | Norman Clair Bratton (1879-1962) | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | Elmer Byron ("Pat") Bratton (1880-1953) | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | +Rachel Florence Bower Bratton (1885-1966) | | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | Robert B. Bratton (1904-1961) | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | +Della Dillinger Bratton (1889-1973) | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | Ethel Lena Bratton Rassi (1908-) | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | +John George Rassi (1906-1981) | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | Roy John Rassi (1930-) | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | +Mary Veirhout Rassi (1930-) | | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Donna Jean Rassi Kneip (1949-) | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Robert Kneip (1950-) | | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Rachel Renee Kneip (1975-) | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Eric Robert Kneip (1978-) | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Cheryl Lynn Rassi Kenagy (1952-) | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +James Kenagy (1948-) | | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Rhonda Lynn Kenagy (1971-) | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Leslie Mary Kenagy (1975-) | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Timothy Allen Kenagy (1978-) | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | William R. Rassi (1953-) | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Jane A. Darnell Rassi (1952-) | | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Jason William Rassi (1982-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Jenna Lyn Rassi (1987-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Geraldine Aijala Rassi (1928-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Donald Elmer Rassi (1932-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Wilda Logsdon Rassi (1935-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Anna Elizabeth Bratton Hiltten (1911-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Clarence Lehnert (1900-dec.) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Richard Robert Lehnert (1927-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Henrietta (Jane) Dean Lehnert (1924-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Richard Eugene Lehnert (1947-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Lloya Gale Hodge Lehnert (1954-) | |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Shana Kay Lehnert (1983-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Gena Louise Lehnert (1985-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Lewis Laird Lehnert (1949-1973) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | +Lillian Louise Lehnert Rassi (1949-) |

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Herman Leslie Murphy (1901-1966) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Leslie Duane Murphy (1935-1956) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Mary Jane Burkett Murphy |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +John Kyle Hiltten (1896-1974) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Alice Bernice Bratton Miller (1912-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Marion LaVern Miller (1915-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Mark Donald Rassi (1961-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Tressia Burke Rassi |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Brent Rassi (1985-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Michael John Rassi (1964-dec.) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Mrs. Donald Rassi (Martha) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Lillian Louise Lehnert Rassi (1949-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Alvin Wayne Rassi (1934-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Jo Ann "Jody" Johnson Rassi (1936-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Allen Wayne Rassi (1954-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Rosalie Miller Rassi (1947-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Jason Allen Rassi (1983-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Jessica Leanne Rassi (1984-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Roger Lee Rassi (1956-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Linda Ann Mullins Rassi |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Bobbie Jo Rassi (1966-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Raymond Christian Rassi (1935-1972) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Elizabeth Prinzinger Rassi (1934-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Robert R. Rassi (1954-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Freida Taylor Rassi (1957-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Angela Christina Rassi (1974-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Robert Raymond Rassi (1977-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Kenneth Louis Rassi (1979-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Glenn J. Rassi (1956-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Raydella Kirkpatrick Rassi |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Michael D. Rassi (1974-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | : Tonya Lynn Rassi (1977-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Suzanne Wales Rassi |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Nancy Norton Long Rassi (1957-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | John Jay Rassi (1937-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Connie Schaffer Rassi (1941-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Gregory Jay Rassi (1962-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Tina Miller Rassi (1963-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Cecelia Raschert Rassi |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Raenetta Kay Rassi (1964-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Ruth A. Rassi McHenry (1941-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | +Robert McHenry (1941-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Ronald Riley McHenry (1966-) |
| : | : | : | : | : | : | Roxanne Marie McHenry (1969-) |



IN THE SPOTLIGHT...



Keith Remembers Past Visits with Family

— By Keith Bratton

My thoughts go away, way back, sixty five years, in fact. I am thinking about the first time I met Cousin Mildred Bratton, Uncle Phil, Aunt Emma and Brother, Phillip Bratton, Jr. (Jim's Dad).

We were living outside of Oakville, Iowa then. I was playing in our front yard when a nice, new, blue touring car drove up and stopped right in the middle of the road. You didn't need to worry about traffic in those days. Uncle Phil and Brother sat in the front seat and Mildred and Aunt Emma in the back. They had been living in Texas and decided to move to Iowa. Mildred was a very pretty blonde girl, and still is a beautiful lady. Aunt Emma was lovely and stylish. Uncle Phil was distinguished and dressed in a suit. We didn't see many dressed in suits in those days in Iowa.

Mom (*Geneva Resor Bratton*) had come out by then and I went out to the car with her, just in time for Brother, all of four years old, to jump out of the front seat with a big grin on his face and with much enthusiasm say, "I know how to fight!" He then hit me right in the mouth with a fist full of knuckles! I was really hurt to the core. Well, next year at school I

learned how to fight too and I 'cleaned Brother's clock' during school lunch hour one day. Aunt Emma and Uncle Phil lived in town and Aunt Emma said I could eat lunch with them one day. Aunt Emma tanned my britches for picking on Brother! (I still love her and figure I had it coming, I guess.)

When I was three we lived in Missouri, near Palmyra. We shared a big two story house with Uncle Eddy, Aunt Beulah, Bobby, Mary and Baby Esther. I don't remember Bobby at that time, but do remember playing with Mary. One time the two of us were in the front room and somehow got the door locked and couldn't get out. I cried, and then I remember seeing Dad and Uncle Eddy sticking their heads in the window and laughing at us, and telling us how to get the door unlocked. (It seems Mary had a different recollection of this, but this is how I remember it.)

When we went to Grandma and Grandpa Bratton's place, a little north of New Boston, Illinois, Uncle Clair would meet us at the boat landing at Oakville. He would take us up the river in his launch, a new boat that he built himself. It was named the Blue Bird and was reported to be the fastest boat on the river. (Visiting them is another story.)

When we went to visit Uncle Ernie we would take our car and get 'ferried across the river' to New Boston. Uncle Ernie lived a little further inland from the river. Later, in 1930, we moved to Knoxville, Illinois, then it was a long drive over to Ernie's, so we didn't see them too often. I thought I was a pretty big kid by this time, so I only played with

Oneta, who was more my age. Don was a little, tow-headed guy and Fonda was just a baby.

We used to play "Andy, Andy Over" by throwing a ball over the barn and then running around the end and trying to catch the ball before the other side could. Oneta and I were on one side, and Don and Zella on the other. (I think that's how the game went!)

In 1940, Bob Sharples, ("Boke"), and I hitch-hiked and rode freight trains from Knoxville out to Ellensburg, Washington, to visit Uncle Eddy and Aunt Beulah. I had not seen them since we left Missouri in 1924. Well, Boke and I got to Ellensburg and didn't know where they lived. We asked at the Post Office and the man said, "Yes, he knew Uncle Eddy Bratton." He phoned out to them and told them we were there, and gave us directions on how to get to their place. We started down the road and after some walking, we saw a 1926 Chevy, I think, coming with three people in it. Bob was driving, and Mary and Esther were with him. He stopped and asked if I was Keith. Boke and Bobby had a long friendship. Boke is like one of the family.

It was really heartwarming to meet Bob and Mary and Esther. We had a hard time remembering bering back to Missouri. Boke and I sure enjoyed our visit and had lots of fun. I fell in love with Mary, even if she was my first cousin. When we left, I remember her looking out the door and waving. I felt like crying.

How we got home is still another story. Later when Babs and I were stationed in Walla Walla, Washington, we saw Bob, Mary and Esther a lot. It was nice! ■

Bits & Pieces

"Bits & Pieces" is YOUR column ... If you have any questions, comments, answers, or general notes, send them to the address on the back page. Attach a note that the item is for this column and we'll see that they get included in the next issue.

From the Editor:

I knew it would happen ... as soon as it was decided to put charts in the newsletters ... SOME one would get left out. (But what better way to find information that is missing???) To those who are not listed on the chart from last issue, my apologies. I am continually working on getting the family history together, and want it to be current and correct. (Meanwhile please note the corrections on page 3.) If anyone wants a corrected copy of the chart from the previous issue, please contact me.

Pass the word! If your family is part of the Allen Wilson Bratton line and someone is not represented in this newsletter, we want to hear from you. Your family may not be aware of the project, or of these newsletters, unless you tell them.

Now Available: We have one copy of a video, from the '91 reunion in Boring, Oregon, we are making available. (Note that this uncut tape includes "mysterious" feet, shadows, sunglare, and so on ... but also a lot of fun.) If you are interested in viewing this video, drop a note and we will put your name on the list. All we ask is a prompt return by mail so we can send it to the next person in line.

Special thanks to those who made contributions to this issue—whether full articles or information for articles: Nellie Carlson, Zella Walton, Keith Bratton, Kay Tira, & Earl Bratton.

Anna Bratton Hiltner remembers enjoyable times as a child. She says they used to go fishing on the Mississippi River in a John boat. The water was swift between the Islands, with a swing dam in between. Grandpa (Bower) used oars. They would sing "Old Dan Tucker", and when Anna or Alice would get a bite, "Grandpa would drop his pole to help us. On the 4th of July, Clair always met us with a boat with a motor." She also remembers Keith, and said his hair was as "red as fire. He was sure a cute baby."

Oakville sentinel News from July 3, 1906:

"The lightning during the recent storms has made some close calls. A large tree near Chas. Bratton's house was torn to pieces and the house of Thos. Aker was struck, passing down the flue and stove pipe and through the floor. Fortunately, there was no serious damage."

HOW DID YOU MEET YOUR SPOUSE?

Did you and your mate meet in an interesting or funny situation? Send us your stories, and we will choose the funniest or most unusual to print in a future issue of this newsletter.

Have you sent in your subscription yet? Cost is only \$5.00/year.

This issue is the beginning of our second year in circulation. If in doubt as to when your subscription expires, check your mailing label.

1993 Reunion Plans UPDATE...

At this date no one has asked to host next summer's get together and we are trying to decide what plans to make. First of all, if anyone would like to have it in their general vicinity, please let us know. We realize that it is a big job to plan and host the reunion in the manner which has been done the past few times, so we are suggesting that perhaps we should have a NO-HOST reunion.

The last two reunions have been in Oregon and Montana, so we feel the 1993 reunion should be in the middle west someplace. If anyone has a good suggestion, please let us know so we can start to get info on accommodations, etc. preferably before Christmas.

If no one comes forward with a suggestion of where to have it, and since we are not familiar with possible areas other than Galesburg, Illinois, our only suggestion would be in the Lake Storey area of Galesburg. Lake Storey has several attractions as well as nearby accommodations. There is, boating, paddle boats, playgrounds, swimming pool, tennis, golf, miniature golf and baseball diamonds. There are lots of picnic areas, some shelters, camping and nearby motels and restaurants. The HO JO Inn has a banquet room if we were able to make a reservation for it.

The Lake Storey area is by no means a definite plan. We will wait for your suggestions and opinions until August 1st. After we hear from you, we will send a letter with all the suggested places for everyone to vote on.

We need your input in regard to the 1993 reunion. If you suggest a place, please send additional information in regard to that area. Remember that this can be a NO HOST affair which will not require a lot of work on your part. When the votes have been tallied we will let everyone know and will then mail information packets to everyone. EVERYONE, please respond to this request. Thanks!

Dot Naseem
213 S. Montana Ave.
Helena, MT 59601
406-442-4779

Zella Walton
912 Hide Out St.
Helena, MT 59601
406-442-9192



The Good-Time Memory Game

As I've thought of the memories I want to pass along



to my children, I created a game to encourage the celebration of specific family events.

Follow these steps to keep those stories alive:

Step one: Decide the special event where you'll introduce the game. It could be a birthday, Mother's Day or an anniversary, but set a definite goal as the deadline. In my case, it was my folks' 50th wedding anniversary reception in Montana two summers ago.

Step Two: At least two months prior to the event, ask family members to contribute 20 questions and answers about their own childhoods. Offer sample questions of what you're looking for.

Step Three: Reword the

memories into questions, using creativity and humor. For example, "When we walked to Gossett School, how many miles did we trudge through snow, sludge, sleet and blinding darkness?"

•Use dates—"What are Mom's and Dad's birth years—in 10 seconds or less?"

•Include little-known facts—"Which grandchild did Uncle Fred teach to drive a clutch pickup?"

•Search school routines—"What two places were favorite winter recess play areas?"

•Recall family meal traditions—"What sandwiches did Margaret serve every Sunday evening in the winter?"

•Think of numerical peculiarities—"On whose 66th birthday did the twins turn 33?"

•List friends and neighbors—"Which neighbor made his own root beer?"

•Remember pets—"What was the name of our dog that had 14 puppies in the guest room?"

Step Four: Print each question

neatly on a three-by-five card with the answer on the back side. Use the cards as a team game at the next reunion or read the questions and have the group guess which relatives they pertain to. For a matching game, list the questions on one side of the paper, with the mixed-up answers on the opposite side.



At the end of the party tie the cards with bright ribbon and present them to the guest of honor. Or, you can save them for the next family reunion. The important thing is to have fun talking with your relatives and passing along the stories to the next generation.

(This article originally appeared in the March, 1992, "Focus on the Family Magazine" and was written by Kathy Mercer Young of Portland, OR. ©1991 Reprinted with permission)

The Bratton Bulletin

Edited by: Ruth Mickelson

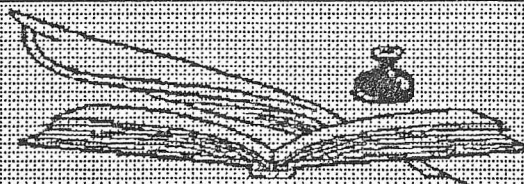
28750 SE Haley Rd.

Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested

Granny B. says...





The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

April - June, 1992

Vol. 1, Issue 4

BRATTON BEGINNINGS

Part 2

Five generations after Andrew Bratton's immigration from Ireland - and several U.S. wars later - his descendent, **John Bratton**, was issued 80 acres of land in Zanesville, Ohio.

John was previously (August 5, 1852) issued 40 acres of land by warrant¹; but paperwork was "misaid" by a messenger. John, again made application November 10, 1855,² and later on January 1856. By 1871, land grants issued to John Bratton totaled 160 acres.

At the age of 82—after a U.S. Pension Provision Act (February 14, 1871)—John received his War Pension.⁴

John fathered five children by his wife (and cousin), Elizabeth. Their third child, **Allen Wilson Bratton**, was born in Logan County, Ohio, on February 10, 1821. We have no information on his boyhood years, only that he helped his father on the farm. He married Julia Ann Trusler on August 27, 1844, Muskingum County, Ohio.⁵

According to an 1850 Vinton County, Ohio, census, Allen had real estate valued at \$400. His occupation was farming and, at the time of this census, had only 2 children: Thomas J., and Martha "Mattie". But upon examining further censuses, we found that Allen and Julia had six children. (See enclosed chart)

Allen and his wife and children moved from Ohio to New Boston, Illinois, in 1857. (Charles was only five weeks old at the time.) They farmed in that area.

On March 17, 1873, Allen and Julia crossed the Mississippi River on the ice at Keithsburg, Illinois, to Iowa. Charles and his brothers (probably James and Clyde, as the two oldest children were married by that time) drove them in covered wagons and took their stock with them.

Things, evidently, did not work out for them in Iowa, for the family moved back to

Keithsburg in the fall of the same year, where they purchased property about two miles south of Keithsburg.⁶ The property was sold for \$525 on December 9, 1898, and Allen and Julia moved back to Iowa. Eleven days later, Allen passed away.

The December 26, 1890, issue of *The Aledo Democrat* stated:

"A.W. Bratton, for a long time a citizen of Keithsburg, died in Iowa last Saturday and was buried in the cemetery at the former place on Sunday. He had suffered for several years with cancer, which eventually caused his death."

An old letter informs us that Allen had cancer of the eye. It is said that A.W. Bratton is buried in Greenmound Cemetery, but no stone has ever been found.

(Next issue, more on their children)



Believed to be Julia Ann Trusler Bratton, taken sometime after Allen's death. (Remember—smiling wasn't the "thing to do" for photos in those days....)

¹ Warrant #18..883.

² After an Act of Congress regarding Bounty Land passed March 3, 1855.

³ Warrant #131081, October 27, 1851; and warrant #128931, May 25, 1852.

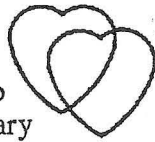
⁴ Pension #16724, November 10, 1871.

⁵ Marriage Record Vol 3-7 Muskingum Co., Ohio Probate records.

⁶ Taken from Clair Bratton's memoirs.

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Gary Robert Bratton and Patricia Ann Shapiro who were united in marriage on January 25, 1992, at St. Petersburg, Florida. Welcome to the family, Pat!



* * *

The Ray Loso family has moved. Their address is: 13120 SE 30th #154, Bellevue, WA 98005.

* * *

After taking a fall in November, Nellie Carlson moved to Durand, Illinois, to be closer to Carol Sue & family. She is now living in a sub-sidized apartment for the elderly. Her new address is: 206 Newman St. Apt. #B6, Durand, IL 61024.

* * *

Laurie Bluedorn and her family (from Walter Bratton's side of the family) were recently entertained with the birth of triplet goats on their farm! (What fun!—and work!)

* * *

Chris & Shirley Bratton Coomer write that sons, Marc and Joey, are active in sports. She has gone back to school to get her MBA (Master of Business Administration?) They are looking forward to the next family reunion.

* * *

Who's that driving a new strawberry red Ford pickup? Why, it's none other than Jeannie Wixom. For her birthday she gave herself a '92 Ford F-150, 4-wheel drive. "Sportiest truck in town," she says! (Wonder what next year will bring?)

* * *

Bob and Maria Klein write that they have both been busy, as usual, with work. Bob was teaching at a Catholic school in San Antonio; and then for the Army National Guard. The unit he drilled with had an opening for a full-time position, so he is with Army full time, now. Maria, a bookkeeper with a local home builder, has been especially busy with the books, taxes, etc., but loves her job. Elkie is in her first semester of college and is doing well.

* * *

Kim Gaskin had an unusual experience with a

lizard, recently...we'll say no more...we're sure she'd be happy to share her story with anyone interested.

* * *

Cheryl Poelman is staying with her grandma and grandpa, Zella and Grady Walton, and attending school this semester in Helena.

* * *

Sam Naseem's mother visited them for a couple weeks in March. (She is from Calgary.)

* * *

Mary & Duke Heimbigner were unable to travel to California, as planned in January, due to some medical problems; but are planning to take the trip sometime in April. Their 28th wedding anniversary is April 27.

* * *

Carrie Rulis (daughter of Alan & Alfreda Carlson Rulis), and a group from Roanoke College, spent their spring vacation in North Carolina doing framework for "Habitat for Humanities"—a U.S. building project started by President Carter for those who've lost homes in tornados, etc.

* * *

Jim Bratton phoned from home informing us that he had been in the hospital for the past several months. He is still in remission from leukemia. His wife, Barbara, continues to work for the police force. His son, Geoff, is a senior and will graduate this June.

* * *

Keith & Babs Bratton will fly to Charleston, South Carolina, April 24, to attend his Aviation Class Reunion. Keith hasn't seen some of the guys for 49 years. (This special couple will celebrate 46 years of marriage April 12.)

The ranch sale deal is still on and will be through escrow May 11. Then they can start building their house.

* * *

Congratulations to Tim & Lora Klein on the birth of their daughter, Brittany Alyssa, on March 18. Brittany weighed 6#, 13 oz. She joins a sister, Courtney.



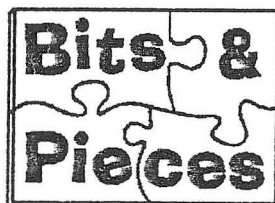
"The building up of a family is a manufacture very little above the building a house of cards." —Lord Halifax



...TO UPDATE YOU ON PLANS FOR OUR NEXT REUNION:

Zella writes: "Some weeks ago I phoned Mr. Miner who is the Director of the Physical Plant at Knox College. He was very nice and said it would be possible for us to have our reunion there. They want a minimum of 50 people. He gave me prices for their present terms; but he could not guarantee that it would be the same in 1993. An un-airconditioned room - \$9.50 per person, double occupancy, with no linens provided...and they want a four day minimum occupancy. An airconditioned room - \$17.00 per person. We would have to decide one way or the other because they would not put part of us in one dorm and others in another. We could get a linen package - towels, sheets, pillow cases would be provided for \$8.50 if we wanted it. We could get meals at the cafeteria for \$10.00 a day. I hope to go to Illinois in July to attend my 50th high school class reunion and I can check out the facilities more fully."

We need YOUR comments. Please send them to Zella Walton, 912 Hide Out St., Helena, MT 59601.



Sometimes "Bits & Pieces" is all we have of our family history. This column is for YOUR use...have any questions? Maybe you have some answers for us. Send your questions or answers to the *Bratton Bulletin*, address on the back page.

Q: Does anyone know the exact birth date and death date of Martha "Mattie" Bratton McCall?

Q: "The information about the *"Bratton Beginnings"* is so interesting, I have read it over several times and I am fascinated. I am curious. At the beginning you state: Samuel was born in Ireland around 1716. Then just before that you state: Andrew is believed to have come to America around 1733. Did Andrew come by himself? Did his family come later? Also, one of Samuel's sons died at sea enroute to America. I know at that time they married young, but the way I figured, Samuel would have been around 17 when his father

came to America, and it could be that Samuel was around 17, married, and had a baby son that died on board coming to America. If so, what hardships those early pioneers had!!

A: Did Andrew come by himself? I don't know, but understand it must have been family...however, I know that there were Brattons who stayed behind, and some whose descendants who are still in Ireland. The 1733 date we are not sure about; we only have one person who has stated that to be about the time frame; I have a more recent source that puts it between 1733 and 1738—making Samuel a little older when he left his country. I have sources that say they believe the families entered

through the Port of Philadelphia, and others who believe they entered from Delaware. This is something I'm trying to work on right now, with the ship journals, etc. Endeavoring to find files of family names, which ships, etc is difficult work ... we may never find out.

--RM

Q: Do any of you readers have access to a computer and Prodigy™ service for communicating on-line? Contact Ruthie: FJCM63B.

Q: Did Philip Bratton visit the Charles Bratton family often? I understand he lived with his mother's parents.

A: Yes. he visited often after he became about 17. Philip was raised by his Grandpa & Grandma and two aunts—Coonrod. The aunts never married so there were no other children for him to be around. I think just being with adults as he grew up made him more mature so he really liked to get together with his half brothers and just "let go" and be a kid again. He went to school longer than the other Brattons and had a good education—his Coonrod grandparents encouraged that. He worked at good jobs most of his life. I don't know when he went to Muskogee Oklahoma Teachers' college. I think that was where he met Emma.

--Nellie Carlson

Special thanks to those who made contributions for this issue—whether full articles or information for articles: Laurie Bluedorn, Nellie Carlson, Zella Walton, Jordan Tira.

Have you sent in your subscription yet? Next issue will be the start of our second year in circulation. Send in your order today!

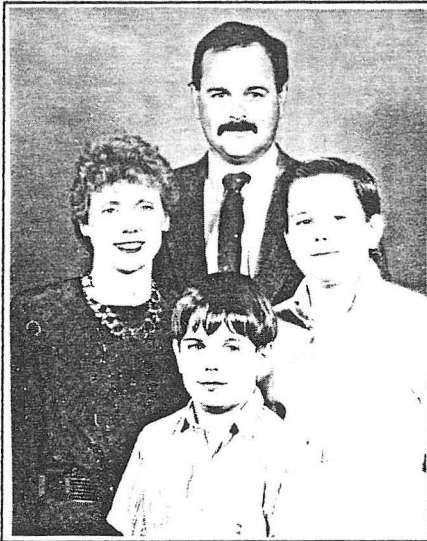
NAMES & FACES

1991-92

Recent family photos received to share with other Bratton families.

Send *your* family photo in for our next issue.

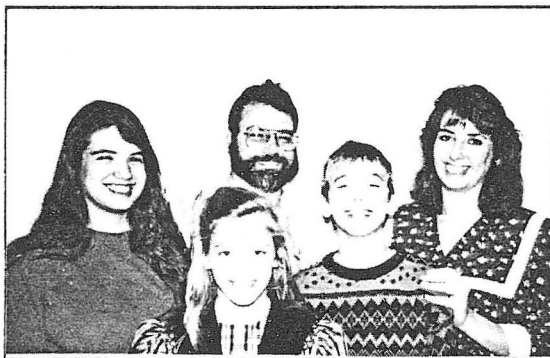
"A Family's Roots Run True and Deep"



The Coomer Family: Chris & Shirley, Joe & Marc. (Shirley is the daughter of Don & Virginia Bratton.)



The Gaskin Family: Jim & Kim Gaskin, Lisa & Andrea Akin (Kim is the granddaughter of Nellie Carlson.)



The Joe Tira Family: Joe, Kay, Jordan, Jami & Jason (Kay is the daughter of Norval and Esther Bratton Wixom.)



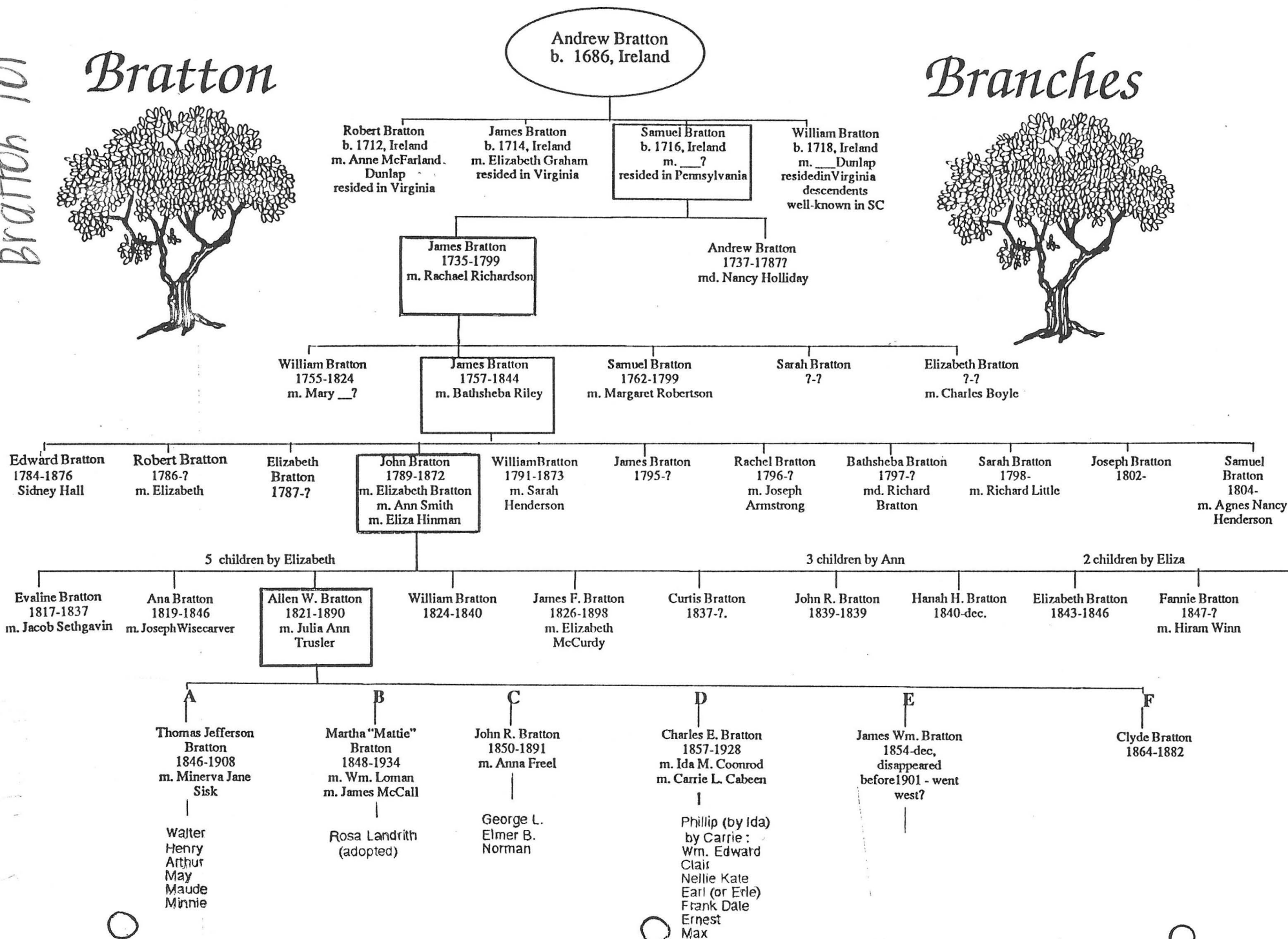
Nellie Carlson (Nellie is the daughter of Calvin and Nellie Kate Bratton Loso.)

Bratton 101

Bratton



Branches



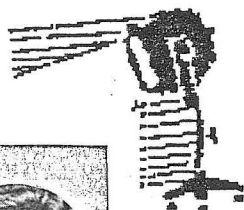
Charting further descendents becomes virtually an impossible task, as far as putting it on page form for printing here. The following format goes by generation (0-7) from Allen Wilson and Julia Ann Trusler Bratton. This format will be continued in following issues. Again, *please* notify us of any corrections or additions so we can have a correct family history. Key: + = Spouse, : = child, * = married within family.

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allen Wilson Bratton* | (1821-1890) | | | | | |
| +Julia Ann Trusler Bratton* | (1828-1901) | | | | | |
| Ⓐ Thomas Jefferson Bratton | (1846-1908) | | | | | |
| : +Minerva Jane Sisk Bratton | (1849-1925) | | | | | |
| : . Anna Mae Bratton McCannon | (1872-1957) | | | | | |
| : . +Edward Daniel McCannon | (1867-dec.) | | | | | |
| : . . Millie Edna McCannon | | | | | | |
| : . . Kenneth McCannon | | | | | | |
| : . . Webster McCannon | | | | | | |
| : . . Florence Mae McCannon | | | | | | |
| : . . George McCannon | | | | | | |
| : . . Myrtle McCannon | | | | | | |
| : . +John McElroy | | | | | | |
| : . Walter Edward Bratton | (1874-1969) | | | | | |
| : . +Myrtle Pleasy Barton Bratton | (1874-1959) | | | | | |
| : . . Leila Bratton Haigh | (1899-1982) | | | | | |
| : . . +Percival Clarence Haigh | (1894-1965) | | | | | |
| : . . . Shirley Alma Haigh | (1918-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Richard Franklin Thomas | (b. 1918) | | | | | |
| : Lorraine Ellen Thomas | (1946-) | | | | | |
| : Cynthia Starr Thomas | (1949-) | | | | | |
| : Richard Haigh Thomas | (1951-) | | | | | |
| : Virginia Haigh Knudsen | (1919-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Jack Evans | | | | | | |
| : Larry Evans | (1939-1971) | | | | | |
| : Judy Evans | (b. 1940) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Rudy Knudsen | | | | | | |
| : . . . Thomas W. Haigh | (1929-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +(unknown) | | | | | | |
| : Robin Haigh | | | | | | |
| : Scott Haigh | | | | | | |
| : . . . +Vernice Robison Haigh | | | | | | |
| : Tamzon Letitia Haigh Melos | (1930-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Earl Robert Melos | (1928-) | | | | | |
| : Laurie Marie Melos Bluedorn | (1952-) | | | | | |
| : +Harvey Lester Bluedorn | (1950-) | | | | | |
| : : Nathaniel Protestant Bluedorn | (1975-) | | | | | |
| : : Johanna Leah Bluedorn | (1977-) | | | | | |
| : : Hans Witness Bluedorn | (1979-) | | | | | |
| : : Ava Shawannah Bluedorn | (1981-) | | | | | |
| : : Helena Yvonnah Bluedorn | (1983-) | | | | | |
| : Ronna Jean Melos Morse | (1954-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Arlan Morse | | | | | | |
| : : Chad Christopher Morse | (1972-) | | | | | |
| : : Christopher Morse | (1974-) | | | | | |
| : : Benjamin Morse | (1978-) | | | | | |
| : David Earl Melos | (1958-) | | | | | |
| : Ann Marie Melos Anderson | (1965-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Edwin Anderson | | | | | | |
| : . . Irma Louise Bratton Mars | (1901-1940) | | | | | |
| : . . +Reginald Ogden Mars | (1901-1973) | | | | | |
| : . . Marilyn Mars | (b. 1928) | | | | | |

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| : Walter Mars | (b. 1930) | | | | | |
| : . . Marietta Bratton | (1877-1878) | | | | | |
| : . . Maude Prue Bratton Burnett | (1879-1965) | | | | | |
| : . . +Harris Willits Cooper | (1879-dec.) | | | | | |
| : . . . Irene Cooper | | | | | | |
| : . . . Lillian Edith Cooper | (1910-1919) | | | | | |
| : . . . Helen Cooper | | | | | | |
| : . . . Verne Cooper | | | | | | |
| : . . . Floyd Cooper | | | | | | |
| : . . +Bill Burnett | | | | | | |
| : . . Arthur Allen Bratton | (1882-1967) | | | | | |
| : . . +Iva Delia Schafer Bratton | (1891-1918) | | | | | |
| : . . . Elizabeth Zella Bratton Ruth | (1914-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Glenn Warren Ruth | (?-1986) | | | | | |
| : Glenn George Ruth | (1937-dec.) | | | | | |
| : +Nancy Rothman Ruth | | | | | | |
| : Randy M. Ruth | (1959-) | | | | | |
| : Tamara Jean Ruth Ruth | (1960-dec.) | | | | | |
| : +Loretta Rothe Schmidt Ruth | | | | | | |
| : Sherrie Ruth | (1969-dec.) | | | | | |
| : . . . Dorothy Jane Bratton | (1916-dec.) | | | | | |
| : . . +Naomi Wise Bratton | (1900-1967) | | | | | |
| : . . . Estel E. Bratton Browning | (1920-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Myla Lorraine Browning Bratton | | | | | | |
| : . . . Earl Allen Bratton | (1921-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Shirley Cornelius Bratton | (1925-) | | | | | |
| : Sandra Lynn Bratton | (b. 1945) | | | | | |
| : Gary Allen Bratton | (b. 1949) | | | | | |
| : Barry Craig Bratton | (b. 1954) | | | | | |
| : . . . Robert William Bratton | (1926-) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Rose Anne Smith Bratton | | | | | | |
| : Debra A. Bratton Olson | | | | | | |
| : +Richard Olson | | | | | | |
| : Stephen Bratton | | | | | | |
| : +Joan Lobdell Bratton | | | | | | |
| : . . . +Lois B. Stout Bratton | | | | | | |
| : . . Henry Ward Bratton | (1884-1961) | | | | | |
| : . . +Bessie Hoyt Bratton | | | | | | |
| : . . Minnie Bratton Gaylor | (1887-1975) | | | | | |
| : . . +Roy DeLappe | | | | | | |
| : . . . Chester E. DeLappe | (1905-1987) | | | | | |
| : . . . +Jean ? DeLappe | | | | | | |
| : Richard DeLappe | | | | | | |
| : (girl) DeLappe | | | | | | |
| : (girl) DeLappe | | | | | | |
| : . . . +Retha Schiesser DeLappe | | | | | | |
| : . . +George H. Gaylor | (?-1944) | | | | | |
| : . . +Dave Gaylor | (?-1967) | | | | | |
| Ⓑ Martha ("Mattie") J. Bratton | (1848-1934) | | | | | |
| : +James McCall | (1839-1941) | | | | | |
| : . Rosa Landrith | | | | | | |
| : +William H. Loman | | | | | | |

IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

We have asked several of the present "Bratton" generation to interview a family member from another generation. This is the first in a series and we hope to get further contributions from you readers.



Mary Louise Bratton Heimbigner (my great aunt) was named after her grandma, Caddie Louise Bratton. Mary was born on a farm in Missouri.

She remembers her mom telling about teaching in small rural schools and having students almost as old as she and some of the boys much larger. Mary's mother also had to "mother" her four younger sisters. She says her dad would rather have been an Indian than anything, his next choice would be a cowboy. He always liked horses. At one time he drove stage coaches in Yellowstone Park.

Mary's parents expected the best from their children. They tried to teach her good morals, Christian ideals, honesty, and fairness. Her dad, Ed Bratton, was inclined to say "no" when they asked to go someplace or do something. Sometimes their mom, Beulah Resor Bratton, would intercede and she would change his mind.

As a child, Mary remembers only one spanking and it wasn't for something she did, but for something she let Esther do.

Mary's favorite toys were a beautiful doll her Aunt Florence gave her and a rag doll named "Mabel".

Mary had many chores (since her mother was badly crippled with arthritis). Some of the chores included kneading bread dough, making beds, cleaning beans, etc.

Mary met Duke when her roommate wanted her to help deliver a message from a mutual friend.

Mary's favorite things to do are: reading, bowling, traveling, crocheting and camping. She also likes to cook yummy things.

Mary's heroine during the course of her life was Mrs. Stuart, one of her Sunday School teachers. She was tall, elegant, and taught school and music. Mary wanted to be just like her.

When I asked Mary for any advice she would give to others, she said "I'd advise morality (helps you stay out of trouble); become a Christian while you're young; get an education; and don't get married just to be getting married or because all your friends are."

--Jordan Nicole Tira (age 13)

Check your closets, drawers, attics....

The family history project has been in the working for over a year, now. We still lack much information. Do you have family photos, old letters, or any family history information that could be loaned for photo copying? Do you have any memories or anecdotes that could be useful in getting a better idea of the personality of a family member? Any pertinent information that should be included in a family history book (or family tree charts) of the descendants of Allen & Julia Bratton needs to be obtained as soon as possible, please mail to the address on the last page of this issue. They will be copied & quickly returned to you. Thanks!

I started out calmly
tracing my tree
to find, if I could,
the making of me
And all that I had was
a great grandfather's name,
not knowing his wife or
from which he came.



I chased him across a long line of states
and came up with pages and pages of dates.
When all put together, it made me forlorn,
I'd proved that poor grandpa had never been
born.

One day I was sure the truth I had found.

Determined to turn this whole thing upside
down.

I looked up the record of one uncle John,
but then found the old man was younger than
his son.

Then when my hope were fast growing dim,
I came across records that must have been him.
The facts I collected made me quite sad.
Dear ole' great grandfather was never a dad.



I think maybe someone is pulling my
leg.

I'm not at all sure I wasn't hatched
from an egg.

After hundreds of dollars I've spent
on my tree,

I can't help but wonder if I'm really
me!

"We Are Fam-il-y..."



Find these words in the puzzle. They may be horizontal, diagonal, or vertical—some may even be backwards! For a challenge, you may even find some listed more than once! Have Fun!

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| Mother | Generation |
| Father | Cousins |
| Sisters | Home |
| Brothers | Love |
| Kin | Family |
| Aunt | Heritage |
| Uncle | Ancestors |
| Grandparent | Offspring |
| Great | Household |
| Relatives | Bratton |

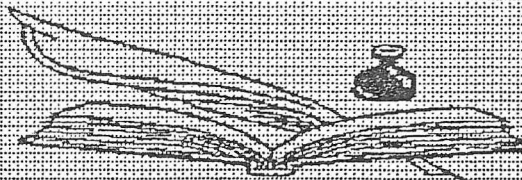
The Bratton Bulletin

Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009-9440

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested



"I forget—when you had it, did you part your hair on the left or right side?"



The Bratton Bulletin

Published quarterly for descendants of the Allen Wilson Bratton Family

NEW NAME

HAPPY NEW YEAR! The new year brings, with this issue, a new name for the newsletter, as well as an article of the "Beginnings" of the Bratton family.

This name tells the consensus of the votes sent into our Newsletter Name Contest. "The Bratton Bulletin" and "The Brattonian" were the titles, vying for placement on the masthead of our newsletter, out of nine choice titles. Thanks to all who sent in their name suggestions and/or votes, and who have responded regarding the family newsletter.

Your comments are welcome, regarding the new masthead, or newsletter in general. We'd like to urge you to send in your stories, remembrances, or updates about your family. This will keep the interest in the newsletter and make publishing it much easier.

NEXT REUNION:



Plans are for the next reunion (July, 1993) to be held at Knox College in Illinois.

Keith, Zella, and Dot will be corresponding with a friend from the Galesburg area to find the costs, and other information of renting the college, dorms, gym, etc. Further information will be forthcoming; but make sure to plan ahead on your calendars. We welcome any suggestions or comments. (Several who attended the last reunion wanted to slyly mention that you should bring your tin pie pans and spoons -- none of the "Pyrex stuff" -- to keep the thunder storms away from Mary H.)

BRATTON BEGINNINGS

Earliest mention of Bratton is found in about 1162, when Robert de Bratton was with William the Conqueror. He went from England to Ireland during the reign of Elizabeth 1. There is a Bratton Manor, town or parish of Bratton, and a Bratton Castle or camp where Alfred defeated the Danes.



Our ancestor, Andrew Bratton, was born in Ireland around 1686. He is believed to have come to America around 1733 from Donegal, Ireland. Andrew, as close as we can figure, had four sons, and the line grew from there.

Andrew's 3rd son, Samuel, was born in Ireland around 1716. One of Samuel's sons died at sea enroute to America. Samuel's family were early settlers in the Juniata River Valley, PA.

The family of Andrew Bratton were the first actual settlers in the township of Bratton, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. They came over the mountains early in 1755 in search of lands on which to locate. Samuel located at what is now McVeytown. Warrants were issued to them September 8, 1755, but Indian troubles drove them out and they returned to Cumberland county, remaining there until 1762, before it was considered safe to again settle on their land.



He had sons, Andrew & James, then they came with their families and began improvements.

James had five children. His 2nd son, James was born about 1756 near Philadelphia and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, reaching the rank of 1st Lt. on 16 August 1778. During the 1790 Census he lived in Mifflin Co, Pennsylvania and had married in 1783.

(Continued on page 3)

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

It's always fun to hear from relatives - near or far - and we've received frequent correspondence from Rebecca (Klein) Ryan, of Ryebrook, New York. Most recent news tells of her son's participation in a 50 mile foot race.



Jacob Wyatt, 22, competed with 180 runners in the Virginia 'Mountain Masochist' foot race.

A twelve-hour time limit was placed on the event, and Jacob, placing 108th, completed the run in 10 hours and 50 minutes. Becky

says she's amazed such races exist, and was real proud of Jacob for his achievement. Way to go, Jake!

* * *

Christmas notes from the Rulis Family mention that Carrie is enjoying her freshman year at Roanoke College in Roanoke, Virginia. Alan and Alfreda (Carlson) and brother, Paul, enjoyed visiting her on "Parents Weekend" in September.

Paul Rulis is now in 10th grade, plays soccer in a local league and performs with the church handbell choir.

Alfreda continues to work part-time at their church, and pursues her gardening interests.

* * *

"K.D." Bratton was able to be home with Keith & Babs, in California, over the holiday. He has moved to Aurora, Colorado. His address is:
4425 So. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

* * *

Maryan Bratton flew to Indiana to spend the holidays with Greg, Gail & family. She will return mid-January.

* * *

Word from Zella Walton tells of her recent opportunity to take a cruise! Husband, Grady, gave Zella the cruise as his Christmas gift to her.

Accompanied by her friend, Cora, Zella flew to California December 9th where

they took a ship from San Pedro (near L.A.). They sailed to San Diego on Tuesday, to Catalina Island on Wednesday, and to Encinado, Mexico on Thursday. Friday they sailed back to California and flew home to Helena, Montana, Friday night.

In Zella's absence Grady, who has M.S., was attended by a "good care person" day and night. Grady's regular attendant, Grady Kendall, (who attended the 1991 Bratton Family Reunion in Boring) is currently taking courses at Vo-Tech to become an L.P.N., but still comes early each day and gives Grady good care.

We're thrilled for you in this special opportunity, Zella! How generous, Grady W!

* * *

Congratulations to Jim and Mitsuko Klein on the birth of their daughter, Clara Florence. Clara was born December 19, 1991, and weighed in at 7# 9 oz. and was 20 1/4" long.



* * *

Word from a very proud aunt-to-be tells us that Tammy (Shaver) & Brian Rogers are expecting a baby in May. Tammy and Brian have moved to:
2692 Loughlin Lane, Merced, CA 95340

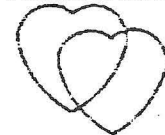
* * *

Mary & Duke Heimbigner are looking forward to a trip to California this month. Duke has just completed his H&R Block tax course.

* * *

It would be nearly impossible to mention every birthday or anniversary of this huge family of ours; but very few marriages nowadays are as successful as these.

Anniversaries



Special Congratulations to

:

*Richard R. & Henrietta "Jane" Lehnert, who will celebrate 47 years of marriage on January 2. They were married in 1945 at Cameron, IL.

*Ernest "Don" and Helen "Virginia" Bratton, who will celebrate 43 years of marriage on March 27. They were married in Muscatine, Iowa in 1949.

* * *

A family is a group of people, no two of whom like breakfast eggs cooked the same way.

BRATTON BEGINNINGS

(Continued from page 1)

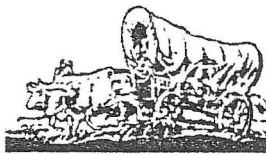
He had sons, Andrew & James, then they came with their families and began improvements.

James had five children. His 2nd son, James was born about 1756 near Philadelphia and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, reaching the rank of 1st Lt. on 16 August 1778. During the 1790 Census he lived in Mifflin Co, Pennsylvania and had married in 1783.

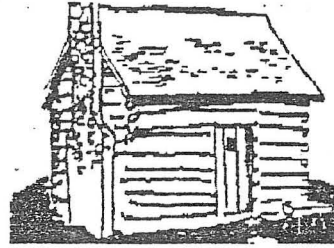
When James, Sr. died in 1799, James Bratton brought his wife and eight children into Ohio, settling on leased land near Zanes' Trace, not far from where St. Clairsville now stands.

The Brattons were the first white settlers in Madison Township. The only neighbors were Indians. There were no established roads, however, there was a path through the forest that had been broken by General Broadhead in his expedition against the Indians at Coshocton, in 1781. The Brattons followed this until they reached the site of Antrim. They then found a trail running east and west and crossed by the path they had been traveling. This trail had been made by cutting out underbrush. It afterwards became the Steubenville road.

The journey was a rough one. The mother rode a horse, carrying the youngest child in her arms. Fastened behind her on the horse was a feather bed on which the next youngest child was tied. Another horse was used in carrying the little property they possessed. The other members of the party walked. The boys wore no shoes and their feet were badly lacerated by the stones and briars before the end of the journey was reached.



It was eight or ten miles to the nearest white family east of them. Some Indian families lived on the creek below who showed a friendly attitude in giving them corn, something much needed by them. Until the land could be cleared and crops raised, the game in the forest was their main food. Within a few years other settlers came. The Steubenville trail was widened and became the



Steubenville road. In 1812 James moved to what is now Pleasant Hill community in Jefferson township, where he remained until his death.

John, the third son of James (born 1789), was a Sergeant in the Absalom Martin Company, fought the Seneca Indians, returned safely from the War of 1812. John married his cousin, Elizabeth Bratton on September 4, 1815. They had 5 children. (Child #3 was our Allen Wilson Bratton, born 1821.) We have no record of Elizabeth's death; but on December 31, 1838, he married Ann Smith. Together, they had 3 more children. In 1841 John married a widow, Mrs. Eliza Hinman, and they had 2 more children.

The Brattons, with their nine surviving children, migrated to Illinois during the 1870's settling near Brush Creek West of Johnsonville, in Orchard Township, Wayne County, IL. All were well-known and highly respected members of the Johnsonville area.

John received a war pension until his death, which occurred in Muskingum County after he reached a very old age. John was laid to rest in the Baptist Cemetery in Adamsville, OH.

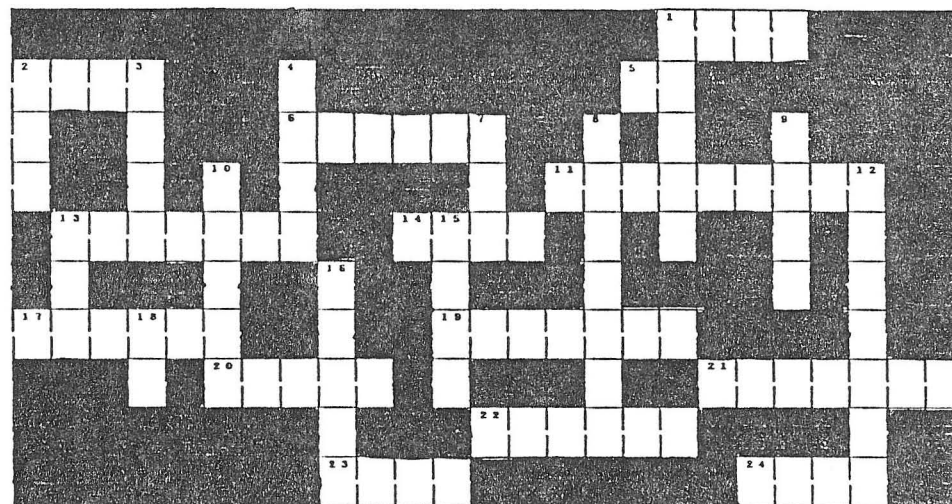
(This abridgement was abstracted from History of Juniata Valley, and Pioneers of Mifflin Co, PA. and other notes)



April 2, 1992

BRATTON HISTORY CROSSWORD

(Answers taken from this & previous newsletters)



ACROSS

1. Allen's father
2. Recent events or happenings
5. James Bratton was here in 1790 census
6. Samuel's father
11. remote relatives
13. "Bratton Beginnings" is the _____ of our family
14. Something much needed by the settlers
17. This was on the cover of the last issue
19. Our ancestors came from this country
20. The boys wore no _____ when they walked the trail.
21. our next one is planned for 1993
22. Elizabeth was John's _____
23. The college at which our next reunion is planned
24. This is a new one

DOWN

1. Our Revolutionary War Patriot
2. Zanes' Trace is now far from where St. Clairsville _____ stands.
3. Samuel lost one of his at sea
4. infant
7. Many of our ancestors fought in one or another
8. problems created by them prevented Brattons to settle on land
9. Issues of this newsletter each year
10. The title of this newsletter was decided by your _____.
12. serves in military
13. Used to care for a garden
15. State in which land was settled by the Brattons
16. The John Brattons settled near this.
18. The family of John Bratton migrated to this state (abbrev.)

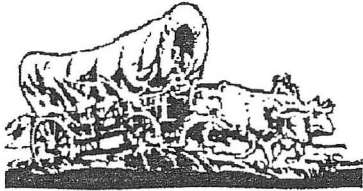
GRANNY B. SAYS...

The Bratton Bulletin
 Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
 28750 SE Haley Rd.
 Boring, OR 97009-9440

The reason people blame things on previous generations is that there's only one other choice.



Bratton
108



NEWSLETTER of the Bratton Family

Vol. 1, Issue 2

October, 1991

LOVE THAT NEWS?

We've had positive response to the family newsletter. In fact, we'll be publishing quarterly rather than semi-annually. (If you haven't sent in your subscription fee yet, please do it today.)

If you know of someone in your family who has not received these issues, and who may be interested, you may want to copy the subscription form and send it to them...or how about giving a subscription as a stocking stuffer this Christmas???

VOTED YET?

Here are more name suggestions for the newsletter: Bratton Beacon, The Brattonian, Bratton Family Focus. (See form on back of this issue to vote.) We will take the consensus of the forms received and have a new name on the January issue.

Here's an old-fashioned recipe with a very interesting flavor. It was found on a card (stuck in an old cook book) of Esther's, with "from my grandmother" written on the card.

COOKIES

CHOCOLATE OATMEAL COOKIES

Mix: 2 Cups sugar
1 Cup lard
1 egg
1 Cup sour cream
2 pinches salt
1 teaspoon soda, dissolved in a little water
Add: 1 teaspoon vanilla
1 Cup oatmeal
1/2 Cup cocoa
1 Cup raising
3-4 Cups flour (you want stiff dough)
Drop onto greased cooky sheet, bake about 10 minutes at 375 degrees.

IN MEMORY



Florence Oneta Bratton Klein
24 Jan, 1923 - 24 Jul, 1991

Oneta was born in New Boston, IL. The first of three children born to Ernest Noble Bratton and Florence Rebecca Creacy Bratton, she married Robert Joseph Klein on June 25, 1949 in Rock Island, IL.

Feeling the loss are four sons, Timothy G, Robert J., James A., and Thomas W.; two daughters, Margaret Cohea, and Rebecca Ryan, seven grand children; and a brother, Don Bratton, as well as many other relatives and friends. Oneta's husband passed away in September, 1966.

Oneta was a veteran of World War II serving as a WAC where she was a Corporal. Oneta was a good wife and mother, always caring for her children, and worked hard to support her family. She died of a heart attack on July 24, in Clinton, IA. She was honored with a full military burial.

93 YEARS AGO...

On December 9, 1898 Allen & Julia Bratton sold their home [south of Keithsburg, IL] for \$525.00. They had lived there since coming from Ohio in 1857.

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:



Fourth grader, Jami Tira (daughter of Kay [Wixom] & Joe Tira) has been selected as an entry candidate and now accepted as an Oregon State finalist for the Miss American Pre-teen Pageant to be held in Portland, May 24, 1992 (Her 10th birthday). Congratulations, Jami!

* * *

Mike Naseem worked part of the summer with the Department of Revenue for the State of Montana. He is now attending the University of Montana. (Address: Room 227 Elrod Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812).

* * *

Belated birth announcement: Russell William Grammer was born to Russell L. and Jill (Rassi) Grammer on May 29, 1991 at Proctor Hospital in Peoria, IL. Congratulations!



* * *

A note from Sandra MacKenzie Cioppa: "...I am married to Forrest Cioppa, a physician for Kaiser. I am a nurse midwife, and have been in private practice for 11 years delivering babies both at home and in the hospital. I'm closing my practice (in August), and will be taking a break until January. Then I'm looking into Kaiser or a new program at my hospital, Alta Bates, in Berkeley. I'm looking to get away from 'on call' all the time, which is how it's been for 11 years! This is why I've never made the reunion -- I've always needed 7-8 months notice. But, next time!"

* * *

Rebecca Klein Ryan writes: "...I'm divorced; there is no Mr. Ryan. I legally changed my last name to Ryan because I got tired of having husband's names and wanted my own. I also changed my middle name. It was "Clare". I changed it to "Jade" (a combination of Jacob, and Suede - my kid's names). I live in New York (about 1/2 hour north of New York City). I'm working as a legal assistant at a large corporation, but am beginning to feel very confined. I feel it's time for a major

change -- maybe a move back to the midwest. I have two grown children. My daughter, Suede Wyatt, graduated from high school in 1990. She lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and is employed as a bookkeeper. My son, Jacob Wyatt, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1990. He now lives in Washington D.C., and is a second year law student at Georgetown University.... I am a member of MENSA (high IQ club). I am looking forward to receiving the family newsletter."

* * *

Congratulations to Duke Heimbigner, who is officially (semi-) retired as of September 1. He and Mary (Bratton) have vacationed and enjoyed visiting relatives and camping. They went to Helena, Montana, and spent a few days with Dot & Sam Naseem and Zella & Grady Walton [I understand that Grady's care-giver, Grady Kendall, likes to 'kibitz' during games]. Mary and Duke also visited Yellowstone park and various other areas.

* * *

Congratulations to Jeannie Wixom on her job promotion of Sept. 16th. She is now Engineering Specialist II for the Oregon Department of Transportation.



* * *

Don & Carol Sue (Carlson) Jones & kids, and Nellie Carlson spent two weeks near Hayward, Wisconsin at Lost Land Lake in August. Nellie reports having lots of fun boating, fishing, etc. They even went horse-back riding one day. Having not been on a horse for 60 years, Nellie said she expected to be stiff and sore. But, even after her foot got caught in the stirrup and she fell, she said there was no soreness and she is fine. [Woah, Nellie!]

* * *

Ethel Rassi writes: "... My eye sight is very poor. I remember as a kid of going to Uncle Charley's and Aunt Cad's on the 4th of July. Clair would get in his boat and take us up the river North of New Boston, where we would have a picnic - lots of food and a fish fry. Seems like 1/2 of the neighbors were there -- everyone was there. It was a good time, and we girls looked forward to it every year. My love to all." (Note: Ethel will celebrate her 83rd birthday in October.)

* * *

1932 PRICES:

(a bit of trivia from Clair Bratton's notebook)

corn \$.07/bushel
eggs .06/dozen
tea bags \$2.00/100 lbs.
cream .12/pound of butter fat
milk (at the store) .05/tall can
tobacco .69/lb
stove wood \$1.00/cord

(News & Notes cont'd from page 2)

Kay & Joe Tira, Barbara & Leon Pomeroy, and Mary & James Stephens are all home-schooling their children this year. Barbara is a 5-year veteran at this task, while Joe & James will be 1st timers.

* * *

Keith & Babs Bratton report that their farm is still on the market. They have finished the nut harvest, and are planning to do a little "RV'ing" for a few days the end of September. Keith just celebrated his 70th birthday. Babs reports only 9 more treatments (hurray!).

Kristi & Kori Bratton are both in college this fall. Kristie is studying Occupational Therapy. She will celebrate her 21st birthday this month. (Happy Birthday, Kristi!)

* * *

Matt Loso and Renee Soper are engaged to be married sometime in April. Congratulations, you two!

/ * * *

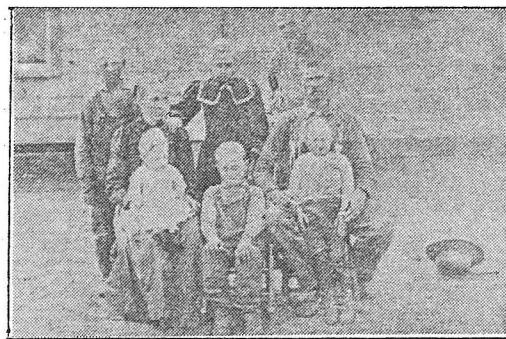
Bonnie (Loso) & Ed Wilson have moved back to the West Coast, and are now residing in North Bend, WA. Bonnie is driving school bus for Snoqualmie area school district, and Ed is driving truck for St. Vincent DePaul.

* * *



Dec. 31, 1991

SINCE WE'RE NEIGHBORS, LET'S BE FRIENDS!



The Charles Bratton Family - taken about 1900 (L-R) Clair, Carrie, Ernie, Katie, Erle, Ed, Charles, & Dale

No, wait - let's be family! Records indicate that the Bratton and Resor families were neighbors around 1905-1906. Later, in 1917, Ed Bratton married Beulah Resor.



(Back-Front) Beulah, Hamilton & Florence Resor, taken about 1906 or 1907.

In November of 1905, while Charles Bratton was busy building a new barn, his future daughter-in-law, Beulah, taught school on Huron Island. (The island is no longer in existence, as it was located in the Mississippi River before the dams were built). Beulah's pupils included the younger Bratton children (Ernest, Erle, Dale and possibly Katie), as well as her sister, Florence. Hamilton Resor, Beulah's father had previously taught at Prairie Point School in Louisa County, Iowa, where his students included -- guess who? -- Erle, Dale, Katie and Ernest Bratton, as well as his own three daughters.

Brattons and Resors all attended the same church where Hamilton Resor served as superintendent of the Huron Chapel Sunday School.

On October 31, 1920, Frank "Dale" Bratton and Geneva Mildred Resor (Beulah's sister) were united in marriage, making the family "doubly" related.

"NAME THAT NEWSLETTER" CONTEST
& SUBSCRIPTION FORM

☐ Please send me regular issues of the Bratton Newsletter (To be titled later):

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I Enclose \$5.00 for a year's subscription (5 issues: July-July)

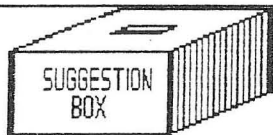
☐ I'd like to name that newsletter! My ideas are: _____

I'd like to choose a name from the list: ☐ B-R-T-N News ☐ Bratton Bulletin

☐ Big "B" ☐ Bratton Blurt ☐ Bratton Blabber ☐ Bratton Beacon

☐ The Brattonian ☐ Bratton Family Focus

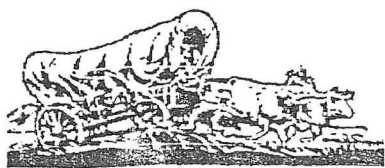
(If more than one in your family wants to vote, feel free to use 3"x5" cards)



Remember...we need YOUR input, news, suggestions,
and cooperation to keep this newsletter going
successfully -- keep in touch!

Newsletter of the Bratton Family
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009





NEWSLETTER of the Bratton Family

Bratton 113

July, 1991

WHAT IS THIS NEWSLETTER ABOUT???

Several have felt a need for closer contact and a medium of communication for the entire family.

This is our first attempt at a newsletter, and we hope to receive input from each of you.

Our idea thus far is to send out a newsletter twice per year (or every 6 months)...next issue being in January of 1992. (Maybe I'll receive lots of Christmas cards and letters???) We need any news that you would like to share with the family... updates of births, marriages, deaths, etc. Others have suggested to maybe have people write short stories of incidents from the past: maybe called MEMORIES. Stories could be funny or serious events that happened of human interest. Do you have an old recipe of great grandma's or Aunt Susie (Do we have an aunt by that name?) that you would like to share? --Get the general idea?

Newsletter names? Some suggestions are as follows: Bratton Bulletin, The Big "B", Bratton Blabber, Bratton Blurts, B-R-T-N- News,... We want YOUR input. Please use the form for your other suggestions or vote on the previously listed names.

Cost: As with everything there are expenses incurred in taking on a project like this. Both paper and postage, as well as printing costs will need to be considered. Unless postage rates increase again, soon, we feel we can start this newsletter rolling at the cost of \$3.00 per family per year. (This issue is free so it would include Jan - July, 1992) Please check the box for this on the form (found on the back page) if you wish to subscribe.

**"The love
of
family
shelters
like a
tree"**



Those who attended the 1991 Bratton Family Reunion (in Boring, OR) had a wonderful time! Rather than just listing events...we have some comments from a few of those attending:

1991 Reunion Highlights:

"Dot Naseem led a wild train dance... Alpine Slides...good food..Talent Show..Doris & Henry...Door Prizes...The M.C. (American Music across from McDonalds in Caldwell, Idaho)..." -- Kay Tira

* * *

"This year was my first time to attend the Bratton family reunion. I'm so glad I was able to join in. It was lots of fun, very well planned. The talent show should be a feature at each reunion! It's great to be a part of such a warm and loving family. I wish to thank everyone for making this reunion possible. Lots of hard work, planning & preparing meals etc. My family and I thank you all" --Brenda Crowe

* * *

"Sam is known for wearing his name tag upside down...we need more in attendance...Don is a great Master of Ceremonies. Thanks to Jeannie & Vickey for use of thier property, 4-wheeler, house, etc..The talent show was really fun. --Kim Gaskin

* * *

"I liked all the companionship & especially appreciated all the work Ruthie had done in the research of our ancestors." -- Dot Naseem

* * *

"Oh, I just can't wait until the reunion '93! Can't we just skip a year?!...I like the way Dot played croquet, it was fun!" --Andrew Mickelson

* * *

"What I liked about the family reunion?! All the family, especially, and the food...GREAT FOOD! The talent show...the funny jokes...I LOVED IT!" -- Andrea Akin

* * *

"I enjoyed being around the family and meeting alot of relatives I didn't know. The highlight of the reunion was the talent show and Don's great job as MC." -- Mike Naseem

THOSE ATTENDING THE 1991 REUNION: (We weren't bored in 'Boring')

Keith, Babs & Kim Bratton
Maryann Bratton
Nellie Carlson
Brenda, Kelsey & Gavin Crowe
Vickey Drennen
Jim & Kim Gaskin, Lisa & Andrea
Mary & Duke Heimbigner
Connie Loso
Ray, Karen, Steve & Doug Loso
Carl, Ruth, Scott & Andrew Mickelson
Sam, Dot, Mike & Pat Naseem
Barbara & Joanna Pomeroy
James, Mary, Rachel, Leah, Sarah & Rebekah Stephens
Joe, Kay, Jordan, Jason & Jami Tira
Zella & Grady Walton & Grady Kendall
David, Kim & Danica Wixom
Don Wixom
Jeannie Wixom
Norval & Merlene Wixom

Reunion Comments, cont'd:

Alpine slides ...seeing Donny in his PJ's was a narly experience. The cool, radical fire crackers. Dude! What I really liked is the talent show. Donny did a rad job and I love the nija nurtles! Jeannie 's cool! Go faster on that 4-wheeler! I have just one more to say: it's been a chillen'! good time c-ya next reunion, dude!" -- Lisa Akin

* * *

"50 years ago I remember Bob and Mary and Esther. They were a dear family and I have loved them very much. Over the years their families have grown, each one a precious thing. I have looked forward to seeing them each time. Our reunion recalls times gone past. They were wonderful! They won't come again, just new memories. I miss the other cousins also. Don & Virginia, Charlie and Georgia, and all of their sons and daughters. Mostly - I like that old trip down memory lane again!" -- Keith Bratton

* * *

"Wonderful time! Jeannie, Vickey & Ruthie did an excellent job in research, planning and carrying through. Just wish we could have brought the trailer to park in Jeannie & Vickey's "forest". All of the space and game set ups for the 'kids' of all ages was a real bonus. Gold stars and A+'s to all." -- Babs

"I liked the fireworks show and being around my relatives. I also liked all the free food!" -- Pat Naseem

* * *

"I thought the reunion was a great success - thanks to all you Boring people (hah!) who worked so hard to make it so." -- Mary Heimbigner

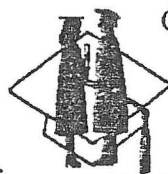
FAMILY NEWS & NOTES:

We received a message from Jim Klein on the telephone answering machine during the reunion, so we came in from the heat and gathered around Jeannie & Vickey's kitchen to listen: He sends his love to us all and regrets that he couldn't be at this year's reunion -- hopes to be at the next one. He has joined the navy reserves and has been very active with this extra job. Since the last reunion, he met and married a young Japanese lady, *Congratulations* Mitsuko Shimoda, on 3 January, 1990. They are expecting a baby in December. [I understand that the last reunion made Jim start to think about the importance of family--guess these reunions are important, huh?] Congratulations Jim and Mitsuko! It was so good to hear your voice, even if we couldn't see your smiling faces.

* * *

Chris & Shirley Coomer sent a note and as some of you may know, are now living in Arizona. Chris started a new job this year, and Shirley is no longer with the airlines. She says "our home is always open should any of you think of visiting Arizona. Summer gets a bit warm, but winters & spring are wonderful."

* * *



Congratulations to Mike Naseem and Carrie Louise Rulis on their high school graduations this spring. Mike graduated in May, and Carrie in June. Best wishes for success in the future!

* * *

NEW BABIES born since the Helena reunion are: Mitchell Edward Wixom (parents, Don & Barbi Wixom)- born Nov. 16, 1990 in Caldwell, ID; Rebekah Joann Stephens (parents, Mary & James Stephens) - born Mar. 3, 1991 in Colville, WA; and Danica Nicole Wixom (parents, Dave & Kim Wixom) - born Apr. 4, 1991 in Vancouver, WA. Welcome to the family!!!

* * *

(Notes cont'd, pg 3)

Bratton 115

"A happy family is
but an earlier
heaven."

--John Bowring

EXPLANATION OF RELATIONSHIPS:

Have you ever wondered how or why some of your cousins were "cousins" and some were "once or twice removed"? Here's the explanation: A relative of the same generation may be a cousin --2nd or 3rd, maybe--but a direct cousin. A cousin of a different generation becomes "removed" the number of generations above or below his own.

Example: I (Ruth Mickelson) am the same generation as Dot Naseem's children (Mike & Pat)--making us 2nd cousins (our parents were cousins), but my children would be 2nd cousins "once removed" to Mike & Pat.

Whatever the case, "We are Family"!

NEWS & NOTES (Cont'd)

We also welcome two others to the family, Greg & Gail Bratton adopted two beautiful children in January, 1990. Matthew Brandon was born Aug. 14, 1983 and Jane Crystal was born Aug 1, 1985, both in Ft. Wayne, IN. Congratulations to Greg and Gail, as well as to "Grandma" Maryan, and "Uncle" Gary.

* * *

I received a call from Jim Bratton on July 15th. He was sorry he wasn't able to make it to the reunion. Jim has been suffering from acute leukemia, and almost left us a few months ago. Due to a new treatment, where he was a "guiney pig", Jim is now doing well and gaining in strength. Jim's doctors seem to think he is now in remission.

Jim retired in November, 1990 from the Army Reserves as a Command Sergeant in the Green Berets. He has also been with the police force as a narcotics Special Agent and street police officer, now with the City Prosecutors Office in Victorville and Barstow, CA.

His son, Geoffrey, will graduate from High school this next spring and has signed up with the Green Berets as an Army Medic. Geoff's

future plans will lead him toward the Marine Biology field.

Thanks for calling, Jim, it was so good to hear from you!

* * *

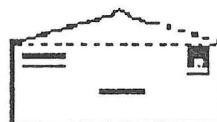
We send our best wishes to Tammy Shaver Alphine & Brian Rogers, who were married at Lake Tahoe on April 27, 1991. They now reside at 2150 Dinkey Creek, Merced, CA 95340.

* * *

If you weren't at the reunion and would like a copy of updated addresses, please send a SASE (Self-addressed, stamped envelope) and we will see that you get one.

NEEDED: Addresses for--

Barb Starkey
Rebecca Wood
Steve & Donna Nachtrab
Alice Miller
Kevin & Sheryl Loso
Blanche Shaver Lawson



If anyone has access to these addresses, please notify us so they can receive family updates.

* * *

Don & Barbi Wixom are now in their newly built home. Their new address is: 2919 Life Way, Caldwell, ID 83605.

* * *

RELATED, OR NOT...

William E. Bratton was born in 1778 in Virginia. He was in the 3rd Squadron of the Lewis & Clark Expedition (1804-6), making it all the way to the Oregon coast and back again. He was a private from Kentucky who fought in the war of 1812. He fathered 10 children and died in Waynestown, Indiana, in 1841.

There is quite a bit of interesting history on the Lewis & Clark Expedition, including Col. William Bratton (then a Private); and it's always fun to find a relative in history books.

For years that has been a quandary as to whether we were related to Colonel William E. Bratton (of the Lewis & Clark Expedition). I now find a "tie": Col. Bratton would have been a 1/2 2nd cousin 2 times removed of our Allen Wilson Bratton. It may be easier to say that Col. Bratton's grand father was a brother to Allen's great great grandfather. Interesting? Consider us related -- or not.

July, 1991

Newsletter of the Bratton Family

**"NAME THAT NEWSLETTER" CONTEST
& SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

☐ Please send me regular issues of the Bratton Newsletter (To be titled later):

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I Enclose \$3.00 for a year's subscription (3 issues: July-July)

☐ I'd like to name that newsletter! My ideas are: _____

I'd like to choose a name from the list: ☐ B-R-T-N News ☐ Bratton Bulletin

☐ Big "B" ☐ Bratton Ehrt ☐ Bratton Blabber

(If more than one in your family wants to vote, feel free to use 3"x5" cards)



Remember...we need YOUR input, news, suggestions, and cooperation to keep this newsletter going successfully -- keep in touch!

Newsletter of the Bratton Family
Edited by: Ruth Mickelson
28750 SE Haley Rd.
Boring, OR 97009

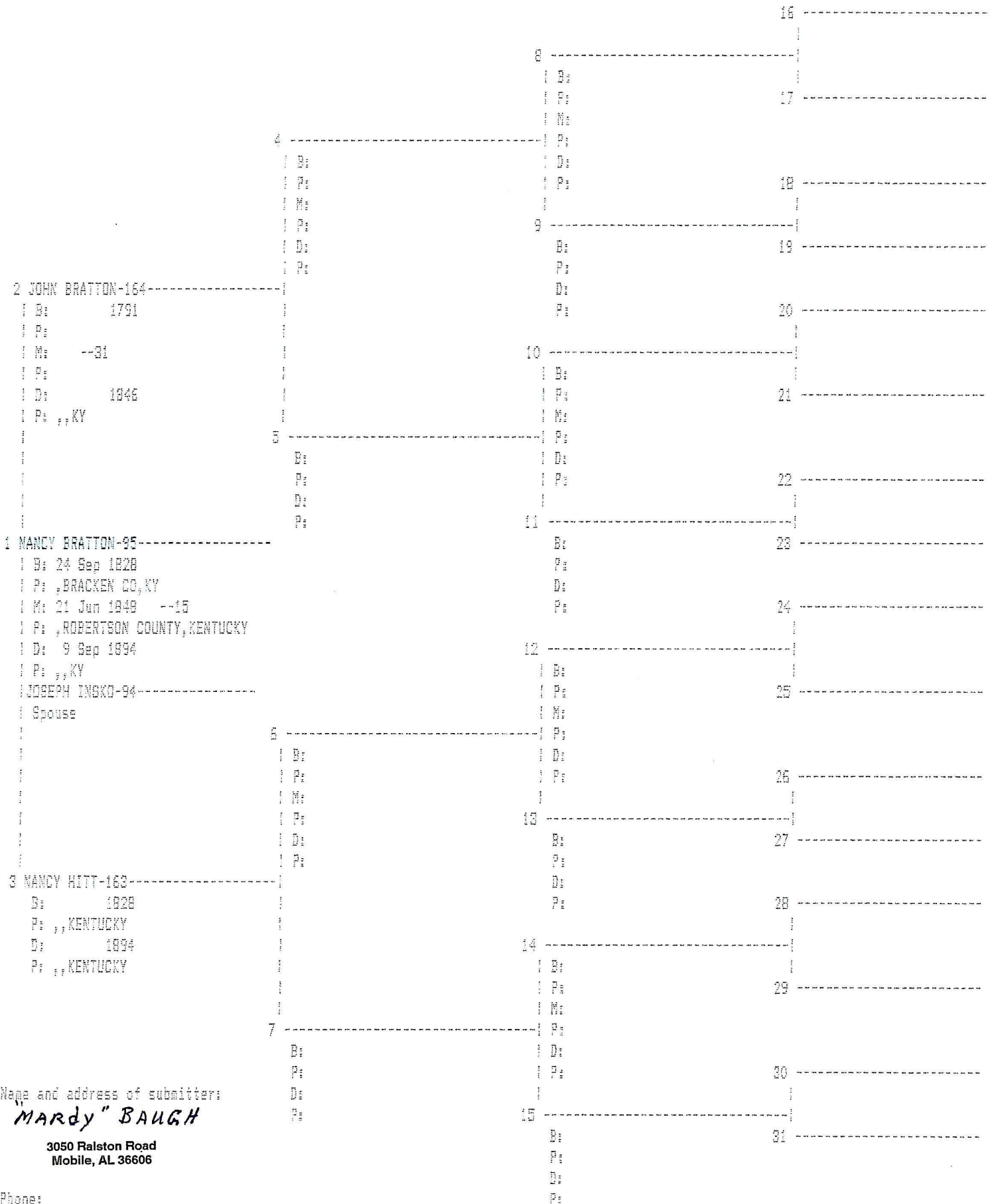
FIRST EDITION

1
w w

PEDIGREE CHART

Bratton 117

Chart No. 1



PEDIGREE CHART

Chart No. 1

